FBIS DAILY REPORT

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PLO'S QADDUMI SUPPORTS SOVIET INTERVENTION IN AFGHANISTAN

NC130802 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 0700 GMT 13 Jan 80 NC

[Text] Brother Abu al-Lutf, chairman of the PLO Political Department, has condemned the campaign imperialism is launching against the Soviet support of Afghanistan. He said: The Soviet Union is backing Afghanistan in its struggle against reaction and for its independence.

In a speech delivered at a reception given in his honor by Bulgarian Foreign Minister Petur Mladenov, Abu al-Lutf praised the heavy blow dealt imperialism by the Iranian and Afghan revolutions.

Brother Abu al-Lutf condemned the United States for trying to exploit the natural resources of these two countries and to establish military bases in the Gulf and the Middle East.

Abu al-Lutf and his accompanying delegations are currently on an official visit to Bulgaria for talks with officials in order to enhance the friendship and cooperation between the PLO and Bulgaria.

AL-WATAN: KING HUSAYN MEDIATING LIBYAN-PLO DISPUTE

LD131027 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0734 GMT 13 Jan 80 LD

[Excerpt] Kuwait, 13 January--Quoting "informed" sources in Amman, the Kuwaiti paper AL-WATAN reports that King Husayn of Jordan at present is mediating the dispute between Libya, on the one hand, and the PLO and Fatah, the largest fedayeen group, on the other. This dispute led to the disruption of relations between the two sides earlier this month.

According to these sources, the visit which Jordanian Minister of State Husayn Ibrahim paid to Tripoli last week was connected with this mediation. Although the paper says that Ibrahim returned to Amman with "a reply" from Libya to the Jordanian mediation on Sunday, the contents were not revealed.

PLO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE HOLDS MEETING ON 12 JAN

NC131325 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1245 GMT 13 Jan 80 NC

[Text] The PLO Executive Committee held a meeting yesterday under the chairmanship of brother Abu 'Ammar, the Executive Committee chairman and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces.

Our correspondent has learned that the meeting dealt with a number of political and organizational issues inside and outside the occupied territories. The committee also reviewed the current grave conditions facing the region and adopted a number of measures to follow up the situation with the Arab brothers and friends.

The Executive Committee also heard a report from the Fatah Central Committee and the Al-'Asifah forces General Command brother Abu Jihad, on his visit to Iran where he attended the meetings of the conference of liberation movements held in Tehran.

The meeting was attended by brothers Abu Jihad and Abu Iyad, members of the Fatah Central Committee.

VOP COMMENTS ON CARTER INTENTION TO OUTLINE NEW POLITICAL PROGRAM

NC141421 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1135 GMT 14 Jan 80 NC

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] After the painful blows which the United States has received in many areas of the world, sources at the U.S. White House have announced that President Jimmy Carter will soon announce a new political program for the 1980's. The aim of this program is to contain what the U.S. administration calls the Soviet threat to the Middle East and South Asia. This announcement was accompanied by a huge propaganda campaign matched only by the campaign which accompanied President Nixon's announcement in 1974 of what was then called a reassessment of U.S. policy in the Middle East.

Through this announcement President Carter undoubtedly seeks to achieve a number of aims, without his new approach involving any essential change in the contents, objectives and bases of U.S. policy, particularly on the Middle East.

Among these aims, the first is to offer something new and exciting to the American public which will help improve the image of President Carter, who had the misfortune to be in office at the time of one of the greatest American setbacks, which is especially bad luck since the man is on the threshold of a decisive election campaign. The second aim is to rally the friends of the United States more closely within a new program based on the principle of struggle against the Soviet Union after the collapse of the fragile structure of U.S.-Soviet detente. If detente in the past prevented decisive delineation, the situation now reached by the United States and the Soviet Union demands speedy delineation and the organization of cards for the hot round which has begun in Afghanistan. No one knows how far this round will go.

If we ask in this context what place the Middle East occupies in U.S. policy, we will find the answer in the intense U.S. ordinary and extraordinary interest in this sensitive area of the world. The U.S. administration thinks that it has a semihistoric, indisputed right in what is considered the nerve center of Western life and economy. Therefore, a firm equation has become clear to those who formulate U.S. policy through the development of international events: Whenever the United States receives a setback in an area of the world, the compensation must come from the Middle East. Therefore, when the flames begin to get closer to the American Middle East circle, the spontaneous position of those who formulate U.S. policy is to focus all efforts and attention on protecting this circle and insuring new means to strengthen the U.S. grip on it. This is what dictated the need for unlimited U.S. military and economic aid to Israel, and this is what dictated the creation of the new Egyptian-Israeli military alliance on the day after the collapse of the CENTO alliance. This is also what prompts the U.S. administration to reassess its policy, particularly toward the Middle East, on the basis of greater control over it--not, as good intentioned people think, on the basis of a new approach with some degree of objectivity, justice or flexibility.

However, the stunning changes which are taking place in the world on the surface and the sharp interactions under the surface make it unrealistic and illogical to pin much hope on the ability of the U.S. mind to find extraordinary ways to continue maintaining the U.S. grip on the Middle East area. This is because the popular base for U.S. influence is almost nonexistent in this area, in addition to the fact that the primary popular and national interest in the Middle East is focused on the Palestinian issue, and the United States has already taken a completely hostile attitude toward it which not only affects the conscience and emotions of the Palestinian people but also the conscience of all the peoples in the area.

Therefore, the Americans will definitely fail in their future plans toward the Middle East, especially if these plans depend on inciting the Arab peoples against the Soviet Union to the point of portraying it as the primary enemy instead of Israel, the occupier of the land. The Arab peoples who are living their central issue--the issue of Palestine--with all its details and developments, and who are affected by it in all aspects of their lives, profoundly realize that the main enemies are Israel and the United States, and that logically their main ally in the face of this big enemy is the Soviet Union, which is extending major aid to the Arabs through its clear positions toward the Palestinian issue and the Arab-Zionist conflict.

However, the conclusion regarding the failure of future U.S. plans in the Middle East does not obviously mean the collapse of U.S. influence or the containment of U.S. hegemony over the keys of the area. The Americans are still here, are still strong and are still leading an army of agents and tools. Nevertheless, it is possible to say that they are moving quickly toward a major crisis. Perhaps the clear manifestations of this crisis are more pronounced in South Asia, but its indications are also clear in the Middle East, where all the peoples of the Middle East are preparing to follow the example of brothers and relatives who struck the strong American head in their countries, taking into consideration that the Arabs have a double interest in revolting against the United States and destroying its strongholds in their countries.

QADDUMI-LED PLO DELEGATION VISITS HUNGARY, BULGARIA

For Budapest and Sofia media reportage on the visit by Faruq Qaddumi, chairman of the Political Department of the PLO Executive Committee, to Hungary and Bulgaria respectively, see the Hungary and Bulgaria sections of the 9 January Eastern Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

YUGOSLAV AMBASSADOR RECEIVED BY 'ARAFAT IN BEIRUT

LD121101 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 0947 GMT 12 Jan 80 LD

[Text] Beirut--Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, received Radmilo Trojanovic, Yugoslav ambassador to Lebanon, in Beirut last night. In a long conversation, which was dominated by openness and understanding, views were exchanged on topical international events and the activities of the nonalined countries. Yugoslav-Palestinian relations were also discussed. Yasir 'Arafat asked about President Tito's health and sent him greetings and wishes for a speedy recovery.

FATAH OFFICIAL RECEIVES CUBAN AMBASSADOR IN BEIRUT

NC121830 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1745 GMT 12 Jan 80 NC

[Text] The Fatah Central Committee has received an official invitation from the Cuban Communist Party Central Committee to visit Cuba in the next few days. The invitation was received by brother Abu Hatim, official in charge of Fatah foreign relations, during a meeting with the Cuban ambassador in Beirut this morning.

During the meeting, they discussed the current situation at the Palestinian, Arab and international levels in light of the conspiratorial plans of the Camp David parties and U.S. imperialism's attempts to intensify its military presence in the area.

COMMUNIQUE ISSUED ON POSTPONEMENT OF AFRO-ARAB CONFERENCE

LD122120 Tripoli JANA in English 1857 GMT 12 Jun 80 LD

[Text] Tripoli, Jan 12, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY--A joint communique was issued today in Tripoli after a meeting between the deputy-secretaries of the Arab League and the Organisation for African Unity. The text of the communique, which deals with the first Afro-Arab ministerial conference, is as follows:

"Having departed from the belief in the importance of Afro-Arab cooperation and the granting of support so that it may achieve its goals, the fourth session of the permanent committee for Afro-Arab cooperation which met in Kuwait last [word indistinct] decided that the first Afro-Arab ministerial conference should be held in Tripoli after the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiryah expressed readiness to host the conference.

"The conference's date was left to be decided by the secretariats of the Arab League and the organisation for African Unity after consultations with member states and the host country. Therefore, in accordance with the decision made recently by the council of Arab foreign ministers in Tunis and the concurrence of the Organisation for African Unity's secretariat, opinion was set on holding the conference in Tripoli between the 14th and 16th of January, 1980.

"In light of this decision, the Jamahiriyah carried out all necessary preparations for hosting this important conference. However, during the process of preparations and after several delegations had already arrived in Tripoli to participate in this meeting, the Arab League council requested that the conference be postponed till next March so that the Arab side could have more time in carrying out comprehensive consultations with the African side.

"These further consultation are being made to guarantee the success of the conference which, in turn, will certainly achieve the ultimate goals of Afro-Arab cooperation.

"Within this context, a meeting was held at the Foreign Secretariat in Tripoli in the presence of the undersecretaries of the Arab League and the Organisation for African Unity in which the Arab League's undersecretary gave a detailed explanation of the reasons which prompted the league's council to take a decision in its meeting in Tunis on the 5th of January 1980 to ask for postponing the Afro-Arab conference.

"The undersecretary of the Organisation for African Unity made it clear on his part that the earliest date the OAU could reconvene the conference would be in June, 1980.

"Opinion was later reached that consultations should go on between the two secretariats and the host country to settle upon a final date for the convening of the Tripoli conference."

At the end of their meeting, the undersecretaries of the Arab League and OAU expressed confidence that the conference will represent an important step in realising the Arab nation's and Africa's aspiration and will enhance both sides' capacity for bolstering joint cooperation.

The two undersecretaries also expressed appreciation for efforts and facilities provided by the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah for hosting the conference and preparing the proper atmosphere for its success.

BAHRAIN

PRIME MINISTER CONDEMNS 'INFORMATION WAR' AGAINST GULF

JN121912 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1855 GMT 12 Jan 80 JN

[Text] Manama, 12 January--The state of Bahrain has stated the need to achieve real coordination among the Gulf states and to continue security, defense and information coordination among these states.

This came in a statement made by Bahraini Prime Minister Shaykh Khalifah ibn Salman Al Khalifah to the Paris-based Arabic magazine AL-MUSTAQBAL, which was broadcast over Bahrain radio tonight.

Shaykh Khalifah denounced the Western and world information campaign launched against the Gulf states and the Western information media's attempts to aggravate the minor incidents, giving no recognition to the accomplishments of the region's states since their independence. He added that it is high time we replied to these information campaigns by creating information capabilities that are able to hold up in the face of this information war.

The prime minister affirmed that despite the scarcity of resources, his country was able, by means of its people, to be an oasis of creative action in the middle of the Gulf.

KUWAIT

PRESS ASSESSES PRINCE FAHD'S REMARKS ON SAUDI-U.S. TIES

LD131034 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0710 GMT 13 Jan 80 LD

[Text] Kuwait, 13 January--In its editorial today, the Kuwait newspaper AS-SIYASAH writes that it wishes Saudi Deputy Prime Minister and Crown Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz had spoken earlier because, if we had done so, the Gulf citizens, even before the Saudi citizens, would have been reassured and the confusion which has swept the Gulf region would have ended.

Regarding Saudi Arabia's importance as an oil country, the newspaper adds that "perhaps the establishment of an advisory council of a stature compatible with the matters raised by Prince Fahd would be capable of sharing in the responsibilities and enlightening the state on the best remedy to reassure both the Saudi and Gulf citizens."

Referring to Saudi-U.S. relations, the newspaper AL-QABAS says that in Saudi Arabia "there is one of the largest American communities in the region, numbering 35,000-45,000." The newspaper adds that "the American demands from Saudi Arabia never cease. Saudi Arabia has always been lenient and generous, while the Americans give nothing but a handul of glittering words and statements."

"In view of this," AL-QABAS adds, "can we feel surprised at the recent Saudi reaction as expressed in the statements of Prince Fahd? Will we be surprised, after all this, if we hear him say that Saudi Arabia can replace American friendship with Soviet friendship?"

OMAN

JORDAN'S KING HUSAYN ARRIVES FOR 2-DAY VISIT

LD141620 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1320 GMT 14 Jan 80 LD/EA

[Excerpts] His Majesty King Husayn ibn Talal of the fraternal Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, arrived this afternoon on a 2-day visit to the sultanate. His Majesty Sultan Qabus led those welcoming King Husayn.

His Majesty King Husayn is accompanied by a high-level delegation including His Excellency Ash-Sharif 'Abd al-Hamid Sharaf Jordanian premier; His Excellency Ahmad al-Lawzi, chief of the Royal Hasemite Court; His Excellency 'Amir Khammash, minister of the court; and General Muhammad Idris, military secretary to his majesty the king.

An honor delegation to accompany the King Husayn included His Royal Highness Fahd ibn Mahmud, deputy prime minister for legal affairs; His Excellency Malallah Habib, head of the Political Affairs Department at the Foreign Ministry; General Sa'id ibn Nasir (al-Qawsami) of the Defense Ministry; and Yahya 'Abdallah from the sultan's protocol office.

Ends Visit, Leaves

NC150936 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0845 GMT 15 Jan 80 NC

[Text] Muscat, 15 January--King Husayn ibn Talal, the monarch of Jordan, left Oman today after a 1-day visit to the Sultanate of Oman. During his visit, the Jordanian monarch held discussions with Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id of Oman on the current Arab and international situations and the relations between the two countries. King Husayn was seen off by Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id and senior officials in the Sultanate of Oman.

King Husayn's 3-day tour covered the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar and the Sultanate of Oman.

SULTAN QABUS DESCRIBES SHOPPING LIST FROM BRITAIN

LD141307 London the DAILY TELEGRAPH in English 14 Jan 80 p 1 LD

[Gordon Brook-Shepherd report on conversation with Sultan Qabus of Oman in As-Sib during Lord Carrington's visit to Oman: "Sultan Lists Arms Needs From Britain"]

[Text] Muscat--Between sessions with Lord Carrington, the foreign secretary, who is on a three-day visit as part of his Afghanistan crisis tour, Sultan Qabus of Oman told me what he is now asking and expecting from Britain in the wake of the latest Soviet threat. During a 70-minute audience five main points emerged from his account of the talks here so far and the exchanges which preceded them. These are:

Air power: Britain has already promised Oman another squadron of Jaguar multipurpose fighters to add to the squadron in operation here. This is flown mainly by British pilots and the Omani Air Force like the army and navy, is still commanded by British officers, most of them on special contract.

Help for all services: a wide range of other air, army and navy equipment--the most advanced Britain has to offer--has also been asked for to enable Oman to defend herself successfully against anything but a direct assault by Soviet forces. In this event Western intervention planned for well in advance would be called for and expected.

No military bases: This planning, which involves full emergency facilities for Western airlifts, does not include the establishment of permanent military bases. The Sultan told me that he has again ruled these out. This is not because he is nervous of provoking the Soviet Union, but because such an attitude conforms with general Gulf policy, and because bases are not necessary to achieve the overall purpose.

"Gentleman's agreement": He implied that the question of a formal defence treaty with Britain had been raised but he preferred, he told me, a verbal understanding underpinned by an exchange of letters. The important thing was a political and strategic "meeting of minds" so that Britain and Oman "would always steer the same course in this storm."

British personnel: in the meantime he was seeking assurances that the 500 or so British officers serving under him will not be withdrawn until he is satisfied that his defence forces can operate at full efficiency without them.

Our talk took place in the sultan's sumptuously furnished palace at As-Sib, 30 miles outside Muscat. "No peaceful desert setting for us this time," he smiled in greeting, recalling our last talk which was held in the slightly--but only slightly--less critical atmosphere of the shah's fall a year ago.

Though there have been many new anxieties since then he regards the arrival in power of Mrs Thatcher's government in Britain as one of the major blessings of 1979.

It is, he said, "like a breath of fresh air" to see again a Britain which, despite all her economic problems, does not flinch from her responsibilities in the world. This Sandhurst trained ruler seems to welcome particularly Britain's new readiness to act on her own initiative. As with the Rhodesian settlement on which he has been questioning Lord Carrington.

He takes a rueful satisfaction at being proved right in all his so-called "alarmist" promises of Russia's drive for world domination, and in the key role which his own strategically vital country would play in this process.

He then ran through some of the items on his latest shopping list. These included fast patrol boats for the navy as well as minesweepers, sonic detectors and helicopters for night and day use.

In an indirect reference to Britain's industrial problems he told me he was pleading above all for deliveries of anything promised to arrive on time. Why not, I suggested, ask for some of these supplies to be drawn in the meantime from the stockpiles of our strategic reserves? If Afghanistan was not a strategic emergency, what on earth was?

"Excellent idea," he beamed, "I'll take it up with Lord Carrington tonight. He is dining with me for a last talk before flying on in the morning."

The Western powers have rarely had a stauncher friend than this resolute 39-year-old soldier-king. He is now expecting their actions to match his own proven record.

QATAR

KING HUSAYN ARRIVES 14 JAN AS PART OF GULF TOUR

NC141010 Doha QNA in Arabic 0950 GMT 14 Jan 80 NC

[Excerpt] Doha, 14 January--His Majesty King Husayn of Jordan arrived in Doha today for a short visit to the state of Qatar as part of his tour of some Gulf states.

Holds Talks With Amir

NC141440 Doha QNA in Arabic 1355 GMT 14 Jan 80 NC

[Text] Doha, 14 January--Official discussions were held at noon today between the Amir of Qatar His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani and His Majesty King Husayn of Jordan, who is currently visiting Doha.

On the Qatari side, the talks were attended by Heir Apparent and Defense Minister Shaykh Hamad ibn Khalifah Al Thani, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Shaykh Ahmad ibn Sayf Al Thani and Minister of Information 'Isa Ghanim al-Kuwari. On the Jordanian side, the talks were attended by Prime Minister 'Abd al-Hamid Sharaf, Chief of the Royal Cabinet Ahmad al-Lawxi, Court Minister 'Amir Khammash and Jordanian Ambassador in Doha 'Aziz al-Kabariti.

An official source stated later that the discussions dealt with the current Arab and international situation, the latest developments in the Middle East, particularly the events in Afghanistan, and subjects of common interest as well as ways and means of developing mutual the fraternal relations. The source said the Amir expressed full support for all of the questions raised by the Jordanian ruler, particularly in relation to joint Arab cooperation and the affirmation of the resolutions of the Baghdad and Tunis summit conferences.

The source added that the Jordanian ruler acquainted his highness, the amir, with the results of his talks with other leaders in the area as part of Jordan's eagerness to maintain contacts and consultations with its Arab brothers to consolidate the unity of the Arab rank in confronting the challenges facing the Arab nation.

Meanwhile, Qatari Heir Apparent and Defense Minister Shaykh Hamad ibn Khalifah Al Thani held a meeting later today with Jordanian Prime Minister 'Abd al-Hamid Sharaf, at which they discussed aspects of mutual cooperation.

Concludes Visit

NC141503 Doha QNA in Arabic 1445 GMT 14 Jan 80 NC

[Excerpts] Doha, 14 January--His Majesty King Husayn of Jordan left Doha this afternoon for Muscat, concluding his brief visit to Qatar. Jordanian Prime Minister 'Abd al-Hamid Sharaf said before leading that the purpose of the Jordanian ruler's current tour in the area was to build a unified Arab stand, coordinate Arab efforts and analyze the Arab situation in light of the pan-Arab commitments and resolutions of the Baghdad and Tunis summit conferences. He described the discussions between His Majesty King Husayn and His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani as fraternal and based on the frankness, full cooperation and mutual confidence that links both countries and their great leaders.

SAUDI ARABIA

AL-HAWADITH INTERVIEWS CROWN PRINCE AMIR FAHD

ID111653 London AL-HAWADITH in Arabic 11 Jan 80 pp 17-21 ID

[Interview granted by Saudi Crown Prince and Deputy Prime Minister Amir Fahd to Salim al-Lawzi in Riyadh--date not given]

[Text] When he received me in his palace in Riyadh, Amir Fahd, the Saudi crown prince, was first to begin the conversation with me. He said: I am glad you are visiting the kingdom in the present circumstances when it is the target of a campaign of distortion which, we admit, surprised us by its magnitude. I know that you have visited Mecca and have performed al-'umrah [minor hadj] there as well as at Jidda and Riyadh and have met with everybody--amirs, ministers and ordinary people. I have also learned that they have put before you all the facts and information you asked for. Therefore, you saw, you listened, you discussed and you have become convinced that what they are saying about us is untrue and even has nothing to do with reality.

I said: If you would allow me, Your Highness, to be frank I would say that the story of what happened in the holy Al-Haram--before my visit to Saudi Arabia--was incomplete and even distorted. The confusion in the account of what happened, the delayed and contradictory reporting and the shortcomings of the media had given rise to sensational stories and rumors. In the absence of information, rumors turn into facts. The great repercussions caused by Al-Haram incident were due to the position of the kingdom which in the past 5 years has soared to become one of the world's most important countries. Western culture in its entirety primarily depends on Saudi Arabia. Cutting off the flow of oil from it would turn this culture into a cold piece of iron. In addition, the kingdom is the capital of Islam and the source of strength for the Arabs.

He replied: There is an Arab proverb which says: "A body's health lies in [fighting] disease." The incident in Mecca's Al-Haram has revealed to us many facts to which we did not pay sufficient attention. For example we used to believe that there was no need to reply to press campaigns of which the kingdom becomes a target from time to time, since we thought that the people are bound to find out the truth. Our recent experience has convinced us that the public is affected by what is published and broadcast so deeply that, for example, if you argue with a friend of yours on a topic about which you are well-informed and know all its facts, he would question your knowledge and try to change the picture completely. If you ask him where he obtained the information which he says is true and whose authenticity he does not doubt, he cites this or that paper or writer. Therefore, the press has become the source of information and probably the major source of information. As you have already said: Why should we allow rumors and sensational stories to have a field day when we have the facts and the information? We might have pursued the wrong path in the past thinking that, as I said, facts will speak for themselves. But we were surprised by the falsehoods of which we were the target before, during and after the Al-Haram incident which seduced some of our people's minds and cast doubts on the true facts we know.

[Question] An act of psychological rape?

[Answer] Correct, psychological rape--that is the right expression. Why, therefore, should we let our citizens fall an easy prey and why should we give a chance to the unjust campaigns that distort our image in the minds of Arab and world opinion? I must admit that the media campaign to which the kingdom was recently the target was filled with orchestrated allusions that seemed logical. But God be our witness that they are quite far from the truth, hence our need to review things and to reconsider our previous concepts of the media. This is particularly true since the Saudi Arabian Kingdom has nothing to hide. We do not practise double talk--part hidden and the other part public. We speak plainly and we are not afraid of anything. Those who want to know the truth are welcome and we must help them to find the facts they are looking for. But if there is an ill intent to fabricate, falsify and raise matters that go beyond logic and reason and with which the kingdom has nothing to do--matters which are in no way true--then no advice will be of avail vis-a-vis such intent.

[Question] Do I understand from what you say that you are in the course of laying down a new policy for the media?

[Answer] Yes. What I wanted to say and explain is that we used to believe that our affairs were clear and understood and that there was no need to make efforts on our part in order to put the facts to the public. But today we have become convinced that we must change this concept. We must seek to project facts because however bitter facts may be they are much better than rumors and allusions. If media activity has revealed the world's secrets and the press has become capable of probing deeply into matters, why should we not facilitate the task of the press instead of neglecting to put the facts to it?

Why should we not project the facts and counter the campaigns which seek to cast doubts on Saudi Arabia's policy whether with regard to its Arab role or its attitude toward the Palestinian people? We must be ready to put matters before any person seeking the truth and tell him: If you want to know, then these are the facts. But if some person is bent on evil then no amount of effort will do any good with him, however we might explain the facts to him. How can we convince someone who does not want to be convinced? There is a certain faction that is seeking to tarnish the reputation of every Arab leader and the role of any Arab country that is doing useful and constructive things for the Arab cause.

[Question] Did you see the reports from Paris and London and some others from New York? There were more than 17 reports, some of which spoke of coups and disturbances and others of sensational stories regarding acts of fraud in the [Saudi] currency board or in the PETROMIN establishment. The report about fraud was released in the form of a secret report just before the Mecca incident. A summary of it was published in the HERALD TRIBUNE and the New York TIMES after the Mecca incident. It is attributed to a secret source in Paris although the report originated from New York. Do you have any information regarding the source of this report?

[Answer] We have no information but we do have evidence. They have fabricated fanciful stories that are far from the truth. When we discussed the outcome of this campaign of falsehoods we found that its originators imagined that the reader is more inclined to believe the sensational things they have fabricated and disseminated than he is inclined to read useful things. The public has no time to waste in searching for the truth.

[Question] Especially when stories and tales concern regimes, for half of the people are enemies of their rulers even if they be just, let alone if the ruler is rich and even excessively rich and of such an international status as that of the kingdom.

[Answer] But our enemy is not the public but world Zionism which is seeking to harm the Saudi Arabian Kingdom and to distort its role in every way possible. If we take the Al-Haram incident and assemble everything that has been written about it we would easily see that the purpose and objective were to cause harm. A media war in the full sense of the word was waged against us, a war of which we and the public were victims. For this reason I said, and I say again, that we must make the people immune to such campaigns. The policy of silence that we have been pursuing in the media field must change. We have realized that nobody would know [the facts] if those who have interest in such knowledge fail to put all the facts to public opinion. In the past we did not enter this field as we should have. Today we must enter the information media field; we must project the kingdom's role and explain its internal, Arab and foreign policy, no more and no less, so that information will be readily available to those who are searching for the truth. But when stories, rumors and fabrications are spread concerning errors that we did not commit, we must not remain silent. We must indeed reply.

[Question] In one of your recent press statements you were cited as speaking of "shortcomings" in dealing with the incident at the holy place. Were the shortcomings on the part of the media only?

[Answer] They lay with the media and the administration. We have set up several committees in order to discuss, analyze and elucidate the mistakes and shortcomings. Of course, we give top priority to the media campaign that was launched against us because it was a terrible campaign. We want to know who [was behind it]? What were the reasons? Where were the shortcomings? Especially since our country is open and not closed and the American and Western press have their correspondents and offices here, and what happens here is no secret.

[Question] But you have enabled the rumors and sensational news to fill the information vacuum that you created. So far nobody knows, or admits knowing who took the decision to close the airport for 6 hours.

[Answer] This is true; mistakes were committed. The Al-Haram incident took place while I was at the summit meeting in Tunis. When I got in touch and learned what type of people had perpetrated the incident I decided there was absolutely no need to leave the meeting and to return to the kingdom, first because of my total confidence in those in control of matters such as Amir Sultan and Amir Nayif and, secondly, because the incident was limited and had no internal or external links. I have for long known about this type of religious movement and their extent. Therefore, I did not find it necessary to leave the conference. The brothers, leaders of the Arab countries, who were in Tunis told me it would be better if I were to go back and that there was nothing at the conference that required my presence. But I realized that by remaining there I would prove the fallaciousness of the speculations. The atmosphere was filled with rumors. What would have been the situation had I gone back immediately?

[Question] You say you were sure that there were no external links with the Al-Haram incident. How would you then explain the information campaign waged against the kingdom in Syria before the summit conference and therefore before the Mecca incident?

[Answer] I broached this matter with President Hafiz al-Asad at the Tunis summit. I told him: "By God, Hafiz, I am confused. [answer continues]

"I do not know how to evaluate our relations with you or what our mutual dealings should be. Have we failed you in anything? Why this campaign which you are waging against the kingdom?" Apologizing, the Syrian president said: The campaign was some sort of misinterpretation based on information received by one of the intelligence organs that the kingdom is helping the Muslim Brotherhood. I asked him: Do Syria's relations with us depend on a report written by one of the intelligence organs? Indeed, is it in Syria's interest to accept such allegation? He replied: Without a doubt this is wrong. I promise you that it will not recur.

[Question] Then came the Holy Mosque incident to prove to the Syrians the opposite of what the intelligence organ had said.

[Answer] Exactly. We were careful not to accuse anybody before the investigation had been completed. When it was completed and we established that there was no external party involved we did not hide this fact. Rather, I was careful to declare it myself because I take pains to insure that things in the public mind should not be confused.

[Question] Former Lebanese President Camille Sham'un said in a press statement that he had drawn the attention of the Saudi ambassador in Beirut about 1 month prior to the Holy Mosque incident, to the fact that an operation of this type would take place and had told him about the source of arms that have been smuggled to the kingdom. Is this true?

[Answer] I have heard of this story only recently. The Saudi ambassador was away from Beirut during the period to which Sham'un referred. As for arms smuggling, I think it not unlikely that there had been such smuggling, first because the kingdom's borders extend for thousands of miles and are therefore difficult to control and, second, because arms are permitted inside the kingdom. The Saudi citizen, particularly the bedouins, regard it as a manifestation of manliness. What is unfortunate, however, is the press campaign which has gone beyond all reason, which has nothing to do with the truth and which contained details and speculations that could only come from enemies hating the kingdom. An example of this is what was recently published by the newspaper AL-AHRAR which Sham'un's party publishes. I am not sure if you have seen it. Instead of trying to criticize the kingdom because it refused to believe the charges of smuggling arms to Saudi Arabia which he levels against certain Arab countries, Sham'un and the Liberal Party should rather reform and stop participating in the unjust and false campaign which Israel and Zionism are waging against the kingdom.

[Question] Do you not believe that the U.S. administration is connected with this campaign? I know that you had earlier addressed a direct question to Brzezinski (President Carter's national security adviser) about the press campaign to which you had been subjected and which was much less harsh than it is now. Consequently, David Newsome, (a senior official of the U.S. State Department), flew to Marbella, where you were receiving [medical] treatment, to meet with you.

[Answer] That is true, they sent Newsome to emphasize to us that the campaign did not represent the view of the U.S. Government. They said the press in the United States is free and it launches even harsher campaigns against President Carter and the members of the Congress than the campaign to which the [Saudi] Kingdom has been subjected. We explained to the U.S. envoy that we are not only friends of the U.S. President and the U.S. administration but also regard ourselves as friends of the American people and the American press too. The Saudi Arabian Kingdom's relationship with the U.S. people is a special one and deserves to be respected and safeguarded, especially when it comes to the distortion and fabrication of facts. [answer continues]

We are not against criticism but we are against lies. Such unjust campaigns are not in the interest of the U.S. press or the U.S. people, especially at a time when the states publicly avowing friendship toward the United States--such as the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia--have become scarce. Our friendship is not mere sentiment but is based on interests. There is not a single U.S. state which does not benefit from this friendship.

[Question] Do you mean to say that the false press campaign against the kingdom is against the interests of the American people?

[Answer] Yes. It is against the interests of the American people. We have received letters and cables from hundreds of important and influential Americans denouncing this behavior which is not based on truth. It is in the interest of the United States to maintain its friendship with the kingdom on the basis of facts. We are not asking the U.S. press, the U.S. information media or U.S. public opinion to be deceitful in its support for the kingdom but to support us in truth and justice. Otherwise, we will not accept unilateral friendship. We are not compelled to be friends of the Americans. There are many doors wide open to us, be it on the military, technological or economic level. There are many states like the United States which are ready to furnish the kingdom with everything it wants. We can easily replace the Americans....

[Question] By whom? France and Germany?

[Answer] All the Western European states which have industrial, army and technological capabilities. But we are loyal to our friendship. Being loyal to friendships could be a shortcoming in this material age. But this is our tradition. Old friendships cannot be changed quickly and new friendships cannot be established lightly. We hope that the campaigns against us will stop. We hope that the recent campaign will be the last one.

[Question] During my recent visit to the United States 3 weeks ago, I heard that a press campaign was being prepared, pending the end of the Iranian crisis, to be launched against the kingdom and against the royal family itself.

[Answer] That is possible. But we are now preparing ourselves for such a campaign. For such a thing to happen would be regrettable. We hope that it will not happen. However, should it happen, we would not keep silent. We have persistently kept quiet. That is enough. Self-defense is a legitimate right. If there are--and I believe that there are--men who are loyal to the United States and who realize the kind of interests it has together with the Arabian kingdom, then they should join us in confronting such campaigns. They should, like us, ask: Is the American line identical to the Zionist line which seeks to jeopardize the relations between the kingdom and the United States?

It is known that the Zionist circles are seeking by all means to disrupt these relations and not only with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia but with any Arab country that has excellent friendship with America. This is because Israel wants to have the American people for itself alone, control them and their capabilities and restrict their thinking. It is using all its influence and power to undermine the American relations with us in particular because we--and we are here stating a fact and not just boasting--have played a principal role in the Arab world.

We are giving all the aid we can to the Arab states confronting Israel. And we are supporting by all means the rights of the Palestinian people and their struggle to regain their occupied lands and restore Arab Jerusalem to Arab sovereignty. Of course, Israel does not like this role, hence it endeavors to cause estrangement and a break between the Saudi Arabian Kingdom and the United States.

As for those Arabs who agree to toe the Zionist line, Israel has no objection to showing flexibility toward them, but to a certain extent regardless of any friendship. Israel maintains no friendships. Israel wants to consolidate its entity irrespective of any consideration or respect for any friendship. It attaches no importance to any state. The evidence is clear to us--its present relationship with Egypt. What has Israel given in return to As-Sadat who has sacrificed much [in its relationship] with the Arab nation for Israel's sake; we can hear what it has given in return from Menahem Begin who, a few days ago, said: "It is foolish and impossible to accept what As-Sadat and his government are saying about the West Bank and Gaza as being occupied Arab territories which must be returned. Israel refuses even to discuss this subject. The territories in Judaea and Samaria are liberated and not occupied." Thus, we see that friendship with Israel is useless and futile.

[Question] It is rumored in Palestinian circles that you have obtained a definite promise from the U.S. administration to stop Israel building new settlements in the West Bank and the [Gaza] sector. Begin has declared that Israel will expand the construction of settlements. What will the situation be as a result of this?

[Answer] The story as you have told it is inaccurate. I discussed the subject of the settlements within the context of the Palestinian question as a whole with the U.S. President when I visited the United States over 2 years ago. Contacts between us have continued. President Carter--and may God be my witness--was most enthusiastic to side with the Arab right and support the Arabs' just demands. We have never asked the U.S. President to stand against Israel. We have been constantly asking him to side with justice and fairness. This is one of the rights he owes us. Israel, meanwhile, is demanding that Arab rights should not be restored. This is the principal subject of discussion with the U.S. President.

He was convinced of the Arab right to regain their territories occupied in the 1967 war. He was also convinced of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people. During all those contacts, my understanding was that the U.S. President agreed that Israel should withdraw from the territories it occupied in 1967. If matters have developed or taken a different turn, this does not mean that we should stop demanding our rights. Rather, we should prepare to make the demand for our rights our primary cause. What engenders some optimism is the support for us we read about, hear of and see in Western Europe, and even inside the United States itself, where a candidate for the U.S. presidency declared that he was entering the presidential campaign on the basis of returning the occupied Arab territories and Israel's withdrawal to the 1967 borders. (The candidate to which Amir Fahd referred is Connally). Therefore, our demands have become a current international issue and the leaders of the Arab nation must agree on a plan of action. This, however, cannot be achieved unless they rise above their minor differences.

[Question] More than 2 years have elapsed since Egypt withdrew from the Arab arena. The Baghdad summit states have failed so far to agree on a strategic plan for joint action. The fact that the Arabs who reject As-Sadat's unilateral action concur only in their opposition to the Camp David agreement is a negative stand and not enough.

[Answer] This is true. But lack of agreement on a strategic plan for unified Arab action does not preclude a continuous demand for the elaboration of such a plan.

[Question] What is preventing this and what are the obstacles?

[Answer] We are agreed on the principle, agreed on the idea and agreed on the need to draw up a plan for unified Arab action. What we need--as I have indicated--is to rise above minor differences and personal hatreds and refrain from attempting to impose certain wishes. Such attempts cause chaos among the Arab ranks and provide an opportunity for our enemies to exploit the ups and downs in relations among the Arab states. I cannot say we are agreed on the type of internal system the Arab states must adopt. Each one of our states has its own system which must be respected by the others. However, what we must agree about and pay attention to is our joint interest--the larger Arab interest.

[Question] Pending the elaboration of a joint strategy by the states which reject the Camp David agreement, has the kingdom drawn up its strategy? No matter how much we try to beat around the bush, oil is a basic card, if not the trump card, in the Middle East game. What is your strategy for using this card or weapon?

[Answer] Our view is that the subject of oil is so important and dangerous as to make us keep it away from childish talk and arguments. It would be the easiest thing for us to appear on television or let ourselves be swayed by talk and press statements and say what we imagine would please the people. Oil is not a personal weapon that is the property of one party; it is a basic material on which our life and the lives of others depend. Therefore, we must protect it from the unruly currents so as not to find ourselves in a situation where we would lose control of it.

[Question] At the OPEC conference in Caracas 2 weeks ago you, may you live long, contacted Dr Ahmad Zaki Yamani and told him not to increase the oil price to more than $23 per barrel and told him to declare that the increased production will continue until next spring--that is, at the rate of 9.5 million barrels per day. What did you get from Carter in return?

[Answer] The issue is not between us and Carter alone but between the kingdom and the whole world. We know that oil like wheat, is not a secondary commodity but rather a primary commodity that means life or death for the countries of the whole world and not just the industrial countries. There are countries in Africa and Asia that have low income; they are friendly countries. They cannot afford such increases when they are high. In this case either we let them suffer as a result of the problem we create or we allocate additional funds to them as aid in compensation for the price changes. It is as if you are telling the industrialized states I have increased the prices for them alone. Which are the industrial countries we are dealing with? They are the West European countries and Japan. If we lose these countries--whose life depends on oil--because of our rashness in increasing prices by high and intolerable percentages, then we would be rallying the whole world against us. This is the basic reason that made me tell Dr Ahmad Zaki Yamani, when he contacted me and briefed me about the mood in favor of demanding high price hikes, I said to him: Our stand must be reasonable and friendly.

[Question] This is logical. But what is the logic in sticking to the U.S. dollar in oil sales? Why do you not diversify the currencies so that one will balance the other in the event of a currency collapses?

[Answer] We all know that the assets of the Saudi Kingdom and all the oil countries are held in dollars. What interest do we have in exposing the dollar to a shock the cost of which we would have to pay like the rest, or even more so? Also, which are the other currencies that can replace the dollar? The yen, the frank, the mark or gold? All these currencies are in one way or another tied to the dollar. We should not get carried away by emotions and, in a moment of anger, decide to adopt a measure that might cause us more harm than we could endure.

[Question] But the dollar is continually declining. Why you do not demand guarantees from the United States to compensate you for the fall in the dollar's value, as was the case with Britain in the past, so that you will be at least be safeguarded, albeit relatively, against this mad career in price hikes, the fall in currency values and the increase in oil prices.

[Answer] We are in fact discussing this subject at present and encountering understanding on the part of U.S. officials in connection with sharp fluctuations in the dollar value. The price of gold in relation to the dollar has reached a level that nobody could have imagined. In my view, it is international events that fuelled tension between the East and the West, such as the events in Iran and the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan, which have created some sort of panic which currency speculators have exploited. There is a real fear of a sudden outbreak of war. The United States is threatening, the Soviets are imposing a regime that suits them upon Afghanistan and the Western countries are in consultation.

[Question] Why do you go that far? Why should we consider the new regime in Afghanistan alone to be a threat to the area's security? We have Aden, the PDRY. Whether the regime in it is leftist or communist, it is linked to the Soviet Union like the Afghan regime or even more so. It is a thorn in the kingdom's flesh which can be used for exerting pressure or bargaining in order to achieve the well-known Soviet objectives, such as the establishment of trade or diplomatic relations.

[Answer] I met with Yemeni President 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il at the Tunis summit and discussed with him several matters. I imagine he understood the Saudi Arabian Kingdom's views. I told him: There is no objection to an Arab regime benefiting from aid given by a major power. But commitment to such a major power, be it Western or Eastern, is not in the interest of the regime or of its neighbors. I have assured President Isma'il that the kingdom does not wish to harm the PDRY. We have no wish to expand our territory by a single inch or increase our wealth. On the contrary,we are ready to help the PDRY when we are convinced that it does not wish to harm us or harm our regime.

[Question] You have refused to allow the Americans to have any military presence on the kingdom's territory while Yemen has concluded a joint defense pact with the Soviet Union.

[Answer] I asked brother 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il about this subject. He said this was a treaty of friendship which involves no commitment of any sort.

[Question] Did you believe that? The Soviet Union has intervened in Afghanistan on the basis of a friendship treaty similar to that concluded between Aden and Moscow.

[Answer] By God, this is what I have heard. One cannot base one's stands on mistrust. If the Yemeni president should visit the Saudi Arabian Kingdom we would again discuss the nature of relations between us, as Arabs, and the extent of the effect international ties have on us. [answer continues]

For our part we will do everything in order to dispel any suspicions that we are harboring evil against our neighbors despite the nature of their regime and the type of their international ties. What is important is that such ties should not be capitulationist leading to the major power taking control of matters in the small power. The major powers have their own interests. We must take standards into consideration. When ties exist between a major power whose population is 200 millions and a small power whose population is no more than 1 million, the possibility of the latter being overrun by force of arms, as has happened in Afghanistan, becomes a possibility that must be taken into consideration.

[Question] What is the nature of your relations with Iran?

[Answer] We have sought, and are seeking, to have good relations. We exist with Iran in the same area. We have no interest, nor does Iran have any, in misunderstandings between us, especially since the new regime in Iran is operating under the slogan of the Islamic creed, which is our own slogan in the Saudi Arabian Kingdom.

[Question] Do you not believe that the Iranian Revolution has influenced, albeit indirectly, the activation of religious movements in the whole area and in the kingdom in particular?

[Answer] Any incident taking place in any country of the area is bound to have direct or indirect effect on it. Events are like pebbles thrown in a lake; they cause ripples that reach all its banks. What happened in Iran was a major event. We have from the beginning been careful to declare our respect for the Iranian people's will. We also hoped to maintain with the new regime the best of relations. When some harmful statements were made I met with several [presumably Iranian] ministers and officials who assured us that such statements did not represent the government's or the imam's views. Rather, they were personal views. We were happy with such explanations. When the Al-Haram incident occurred and it was reported in the international circles that Iran was involved in what happened, Saudi Arabia denied such reports because, in fact, it is not true. On the contrary, the imam issued a statement condemning what has taken place in the Al-Haram.

[Question] Did you hear what President as-Sadat said about your relations with Iran? He said you are afraid of confronting Khomeyni and remain silent over the harm he is causing to Islam and Muslims.

[Answer] As-Sadat wants to drag us toward a policy in whose usefulness we do not believe. Besides, his attitude toward the imam is biased. His relations with Iran are bad and we have no wish to follow, and see no Arab interest in following, his example. Neither are we ready to take his words seriously. We respect Imam Khomeyni's beliefs and we will not change our views toward him or toward Iran as As-Sadat wants us to.

[Question] When I was in the United States recently I heard that you had sent a message to President Carter warning him of the consequences of implementing a plan to assassinate the imam that you heard about and explained to him what these consequences would be were it to be carried out. Can we know what consequences you referred to?

[Answer] It is not true. Nothing of this sort has happened. Carter wants to assassinate Khomeyni? This is the first time I have heard of such a report.

[Question] I heard it when I was visiting the United Nations, sitting at a dinner table with some Arab ambassadors.

[Answer] I have not heard of such a thing. We have no knowledge that Carter was contemplating it. Nor did we ask anything of Carter in this regard.

[Question] Would you permit me, Your Highness, to ask you certain questions regarding some internal matters?

[Answer] Please do.

[Question] Towards the end of King Faysal's era and at the beginning of your era much was said about the need to draw up [plans for] a rule of law or some sort of a constitutional document. You also welcomed the idea of establishing a consultative council. Why have these reform steps been delayed?

[Answer] This subject has been preoccupying our thoughts for a long time. We have been careful not to rush it but rather study it thoroughly and deeply. We want our steps to be in the right direction. What you call a constitution we call "the basic rule of law." We have completed the drafting of most of its provisions and it consists of about 200 articles, all of which are derived from Islamic legislation [Shari'ah].

[Question] Will the study period be long?

[Answer] We will complete all these measures within the coming 2 months. The declaration of "the basic rule of law" will be accompanied by the declaration of the establishment of the consultative council which will be complementary to the Council of Ministers.

[Question] Will this declaration be preceded by a cabinet reshuffle as is now being rumored?

[Answer] The required change will not merely be a change in personalities but rather in the methods of rule and its mentality.

[Question] Do you not believe, Your Highness, that the participation of amirs, ministers and their children in government contracts creates an atmosphere harmful to the reputation of the government at home and abroad? Do you intend to do anything in this regard?

[Answer] The members of the Saudi royal family are not just one or two hundred strong. Rather, they run into thousands. Consequently, they cannot all be state officials or employees. Is it possible to ban those outside the government from practicing free enterprise? Those who are within the government and the authorities have no right to practice any trade. This applies to the amirs as well as to the ministers.

[Question] But what is actually happening is contrary to this spirit. I have read in the newspaper UMM AL-QURA (the Saudi state official paper) about the forming of a company whose members are sons of some ministers. What is interesting is that some of them are no more than 9 years old, which means that the company will be managed by the fathers on behalf of the children. Is this not considered an abuse of influence?

[Answer] I have noted this story in UMM AL-QURA, and we will deal with the matter. Under no circumstances can such abuse of the law be allowed. There are many problems of this type. Every time we come across such a problem, we will deal with it, and we will prevent anybody from abusing power through a relative or a son. In the past we allowed officials to participate in companies provided that they did not assume the position of company chairman or hold authority which they could abuse. All that we want to achieve is to create an atmosphere in the country in which people will have equal opportunities.. Any tampering with this equality or any attempt to abuse influence and power we will deal with under the law.

[Question] What about immodesty, sir? Immodesty in spending, squandering money on silly pleasures and wasting it ignorantly and foolishly? Did you hear about the Saudi official in PETROMIN who chartered a plane and invited his friends and their wives to spend the new year in Paris? Did you hear about the former official who did the same in London?

[Answer] I have heard, and I have been pained by what I heard. This kind of immodesty has become a sick phenomenon that must be dealt with. I am considering the idea of inserting instructions in Saudis' passports when they travel abroad, reminding them that they belong to a Muslim country that has its own Islamic traditions and reputation which they must preserve. We will not be content with instructions and recommendations but will set up a watch on this kind of immodesty and unconventional behavior. I have heard that some of those who have become rich frequent entertainment places in Paris and London and shower singers and dancers with banknotes. Is this something about which we can stay silent? Money is a weapon. Whoever possesses it must use it well, and not play with it and harm the reputation of his country and his people. If we are careful not to allow our enemies and the enemies of our nation and religion to criticize us, we are even more careful not to give those enemies the ammunition to use gainst us.

Concluding, Amir Fahd said: Measures will be taken against everyone who prejudices this country's reputation. Such measures will be applied against members of the royal family before other citizens.

ALLEGATIONS OF COOL RELATIONS WITH U.S. DENIED

ID141830 Riyadh SNA in Arabic 1745 GMT 14 Jan 80 ID

[Text] Riyadh--A responsible source has denied allegations in the press regarding tension in relations between the kingdom and the United States. The source said all that has been circulated about this subject has no foundation and that relations between the two countries are normal, without tension or coolness.

BRITISH FOREIGN SECRETARY LORD CARRINGTON ARRIVES 13 JAN

ID131212 Riyadh SNA in Arabic 1050 GMT 13 Jan 80 ID

[Text] Riyadh, 13 January--British Foreign Secretary Lord Carrington arrived in Riyadh this afternoon from Muscat on the third leg of his tour of a number of Asian and Middle East countries. He was welcomed at the airport by Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, Foreign Ministry under Secretary for Political Affairs Shaykh 'Abd ar-Rahman Mansuri, Chief of Protocol at the Foreign Ministry Salim Sunbul and others. The British foreign secretary began his tour last Wednesday with a visit to Turkey.

Meets With Foreign Minister

ID141030 Riyadh SNA in Arabic 0945 GMT 14 Jan 80 LD

[Text] Riyadh, 14 January--Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal and British Foreign Secretary Lord Carrington, who is now on a visit to the kingdom, held their second meeting this morning. Foreign Ministry Under Secretary Shaykh 'Abd ar-Rahman Mansuri, British Foreign Office Under Secretary Donald Maitland and British Ambassador James Craig and a number of officials from the Foreign Ministry and Foreign Office attended the talks. The discussions focused on international matters headed by the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan and a number of other matters, including relations between the two countries.

Lord Carrington arrived in Riyadh yesterday on the third stage of this tour which has so far taken him to Turkey and the Sultanate of Oman.

PRINCE NAYIF: MOSQUE ATTACKERS DID NOT PROTEST U.S. RELATIONS

ID141626 Riyadh SNA in Arabic 2230 GMT 13 Jan 80 LD

[Excerpts] Riyadh--[At a press conference explaining the details of the mosque incident] His Royal Highness Prince Nayif answered a question about the aims behind the holy mosque incident and whether it was in protest against radio and television or against the kingdom's relations with the United States by saying: Not at all. The fact is that when the members of the renegade clique were in the Holy Mosque there was nothing else except what had been broadcast, recorded and heard by everyone, namely their belief in the mahdi and that they should fight in the holy Mosque. As regards radio and television, their previous leaflets mentioned prohibiting such things. But as for oil, we have not heard anything about that from them.

DEFENSE MINISTER, YAR PRIME MINISTER RESUME TALKS

ID151429 Siyadh SNA in Arabic 1300 GMT 15 Jan 80 LD

[Excerpts] Riyadh--The meetings between the Saudi delegation headed by His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, minister of defense and aviation and the Yemeni delegation headed by 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani, prime minister of the Yemen Arab Republic, were resumed this afternoon.

These meetings come as a continuation of the previous meetings held between the two delegations to discuss the situation which the region is undergoing at the present time, and also to the strengthening and bolstering of relations between the two fraternal countries and peoples.

OFFICIAL KILLED DURING 13 JAN TERRORIST RAID

NC141856 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1630 GMT 14 Jan 80 NC

[Text of Egyptian public prosecutor's statement]

[Text] Cairo, 14 January--Last October, the State Security Investigation Department was able, on the basis of a previous investigation and with the permission of the public prosecutor, to arrest 70 members of a deviationist organization called the "Al-Jihad Organization." This organization, which is based on the idea that the present Islamic society is irreligious, advocates a new Islamic society.

Arms were confiscated from members of the organization, and the supreme state security prosecution carried out the investigation. Some leading defendants admitted possessing arms as well as their role in forming the organization, which has members abroad who are financing and providing it with arms and explosives for sabotage operations. One of the leaders, a citizen of an Arab state, admitted that the organization's command instructed him to negotiate with Palestinian organizations to undertake training for members of the organization in Lebanon.

The prosecution decided to remand into custody those defendants against whom evidence was available preliminary to their trial. It also requested the arrest of those organization members who had absconded as well as those who had been identified by some defendants, including a certain 'Ali Mustafa al-Maghribi from Alexandria. The State Security Investigation Department received information indicating that the said fugitivie was hiding in a home in the area of Al-Madafin in Al-Muntazah's Al-Mandarah quarter and that he had planned sabotage operations in some Alexandria establishments.

On Sunday, 13 January, a force from the investigation department in Alexandria went to the hiding place. The force was fired at and some explosives were hurled at it, killing Lt Col Muhammad as-Sayyid Hafni of the Alexandria State Security Investigation Department. One officer was able to shoot at and hit the defendant, who was subsequently arrested. Firearms, ammunition and explosives were found in his possession. The investigation revealed that these explosives were similar to those found in some Alexandria establishments. The public prosecutor received notification of the proceedings on 6 January 1980.

The Supreme State Security Prosecution is continuing the investigation in Alexandria under the supervision of the public prosecutor.

AFP: TWO CHURCHES IN ALEXANDRIA BOMBED 6 JAN

NC112343 Paris AFP in English 2232 GMT 11 Jan 80 NC

[Text] Cairo, Jan. 11 (AFP)--Bombs killed one man and seriously wounded another at two churches in Alexandria on the evening of January 6, the eve of Coptic Christmas, a reliable source said here tonight.

A young man's left leg was badly injured as he tried to defuse one of the bombs, and subsequently it was amputated. The bomb had been placed in a church in a working-class section of the city at about 2300 local time as the first worshippers were filing into the church.

A man carrying the second bomb was killed when it went off prematurely near the "Vineyard" church in a middle-class area. The Coptic Christian community attributed both attempts to members of a militant group called the Moslem Brothers.

Last March, the Coptic Church of the Virgin, in an old section of Cairo, was destroyed by a deliberately set fire, also attributed to the same group.

In recent months, Moslem militants have struck against Coptic Christians in various cities. Last week there were explosions at the schools of literature and medicine in Cairo during an artistic program which included a young Coptic orchestra conductor, Hani Shinudah.

INTERIOR MINISTER REVEALS NEW COMMUNIST SCHEME

NC122106 Cairo MENA in English 1945 GMT 12 Jan 80 NC

[Text] Cairo, Jan. 12 (MENA)--Interior Minister an-Nabawi Isma'il said today that there is a new communist scheme in Egypt designed to strike at national unity and divert the country from its support for the people of Afghanistan. These elements, he added, are disseminating leaflets containing poisonous propaganda.

Addressing a meeting of the General Secretariat of the ruling National Democratic Party, the interior minister said: Our home front is enjoying an atmosphere of stability and security unmatched in any other country inside or outside the Arab world. But this stability does not rule out the presence of a limited unlawful minority like any other country. He added that there are schemes and challenges that come to us from abroad. As a whole they are terrorist schemes to foment trouble on our home front by means of clandestine broadcasts and leaflets that come from abroad. All these schemes make it the duty of the people and the security forces to abort them and check them, especially during the phase of the normalization of Egyptian-Israeli relations, which starts next month.

GHALI SENDS LETTERS TO THREE AFRICAN FOREIGN MINISTERS

NC141245 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1226 GMT 14 Jan 80 NC

[Text] Cairo, 14 January--Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali today sent letters to the foreign ministers of Kenya, Liberia, Uganda and Ethiopia. Foreign Ministry Under Secretary Samir Ahmad handed the letters on behalf of Dr Butrus Ghali to the ambassadors of these states in Cairo.

The letters include an explanation of the latest developments in the Middle East situation, particularly in light of the recent summit meeting between President Anwar as-Sadat and Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin in Aswan. They also explain Egypt's principled stand on the comprehensive and just solution in the Middle East and on the rights of the Palestinian people.

The letters also deal with the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan and various African issues.

PAKISTANI EMBASSY APPEALS FOR AID TO AFGHAN REFUGEES

NC141514 Cairo MENA in English 1400 GMT 14 Jan 80 NC

[Text] Cairo, Jan 14 (MENA)--The Pakistani Embassy here said today that more than 400,000 Afghan refugees crossed the borders to Pakistan after they had [been] exposed to attacks by the Soviet forces.

In a statement issued today to this effect, the embassy said that those refugees represent a humanitarian problem and that efforts of believers and peace-loving people in the world should be directed for securing them the simplest means of life.

The embassy made an appeal for donation and rescue aid to lodge those refugees, adding that the humble potentials of Pakistan could not alone make available decent care for them.

AUTONOMY SUBCOMMITTEE SESSION POSTPONED OVERNIGHT

NC141814 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1750 GMT 14 Jan 80 NC

[Excerpt] Cairo, 14 January--The opening session of the two autonomy subcommittees, which was due to be held tonight, has been postponed until 0930 tomorrow because of the late arrival of the Israeli delegation's plane.

The heads of the Egyptian, Israeli and U.S. delegations held a meeting at Mena House Hotel in Al-Haram tonight in preparation for the committee meetings, which will begin tomorrow.

ISRAELI PAPER INTERVIEWS PRESIDENT AS-SADAT

TA111140 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 11 Jan 80 p 3 TA

[Exclusive interview with Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat by 'Oded Granot at the former's residence in Aswan, presumably on 9 January]

[Excerpts] Question: I chose to open the interview with a question on the forthcoming normalization. How would you regard the development of relations between the two countries? What are your expectations?

Answer: "I have already declared that immediately after the completion of the first stage of the withdrawal on 25 January and according to the Camp David accords the entire process of normalization will begin. There are several moves which have to be made on 26 January, that is, the following day, and there are other issues which must be discussed within 6 months. Let me tell you: Everything we undertook at Camp David will be fulfilled."

One can tell that As-Sadat is very fond of Anis Mansur, the editor of "OCTOBER" magazine--who is also present during the interview--and appreciates the latter's extensive relations with Israeli personalities. He refers to this in his reply to the question: What are your expectations from the forthcoming meeting between the Egyptian and Israeli peoples when the borders are opened? As-Sadat then mentions Anis Mansur: "The first meeting has actually taken place already. Every now and then I hear, particularly from editor Anis Mansur, that many of your people--journalists and businessmen--have already visited Egypt and established relations with my people....Many of them told me how warmly they had been received. Begin himself, during his visit to Alexandria and to the synagogue there--one of the most famous synagogues--saw and met my people. He has already experienced, in a direct manner, the feelings of the Egyptians just as I experienced them during my visits to Jerusalem and Beersheba, but mainly to Haifa. To tell the truth, I will never forget what I saw in Haifa."

Question: The meetings between journalists and businessmen will also include tourists and regular people in much larger numbers--will that not have much stronger, far-reaching repercussions?

Answer: "Certainly. Perhaps you did not hear that in Haifa I invited them (the Israelis) to come to Alexandria and at the banquet yesterday I told Begin: 'Do you know that we can host all the Haifa residents in Alexandria?' Begin said: 'How?' I replied to him: 1 million Egyptians come to Alexandria in the summer. There are only 250,000 residents in Haifa. Therefore, there would be no problem in hosting them (laughing)--if they wish to have some sort of 'exodus' back to Egypt...."

Question: Will you encourage Israeli students to enroll in Egyptian universities so that they can learn more about Arab history and culture and Egyptian history?

Answer: (after pondering the question) "It would be better not to deal with the extreme case in the first stage of the normalization. As I have already told you, everything we agreed upon at Camp David--and even beyond that--will be implemented. However, let us not rush this issue. The students that come...well, some of my students are not at all happy (with the peace treaty) because in the last 31 years they have been educated to have specific concepts regarding Israel and they have been proposed [last word presumably printing error of word "incited"] by certain emotions.... Then, this is actually what happened to your own university students (in their attitude toward Egypt). Therefore, let us not rush the entire issue. However, whatever is written in the Camp David accords will certainly draw both nations closer in the shortest period of time. I am sure about that."

Question: Is education not one of the best means to allow the two peoples to know each other better?

Answer: "This can also be achieved by reciprocal student visits. Visits--yes. However, to study at the universities together--not yet! Nevertheless, students will be allowed to visit each other."

Question: What are the main spheres of cooperation between Israel and Egypt which will benefit both nations?

Answer: "There are many. A great deal of cooperation can be achieved. It will benefit both sides. As far as I am concerned, I think that whatever does not benefit both sides will not 'work.' Nevertheless, there are many spheres in which cooperation is possible, in almost every field."

Question: When the embassies open--the Israeli Embassy in Cairo and the Egyptian Embassy in Tel Aviv--how will you brief the new ambassador, Sa'd Murtada, and what role do you expect the Israeli Embassy to play?

Answer: "They [the ambassadors] must be very careful and avoid all the obstacles which may confront them because it seems that I gave a surprise (by my peace initiative) to all those concerned. There may be problems and difficulties here and there. My advice is: Be patient. You must know that the masses, both here in Egypt and in Israel, support peace. They may encounter people opposed to peace. However, those people are irrelevant to the feelings of the masses. When I say 'masses' I mean the masses in Egypt just as the masses in Israel, whom I have already met in Beersheba and Haifa."

This is President as-Sadat's day off, between the second meeting with Prime Minister Menahem Begin and the third and conclusive meeting on Thursday. After greeting me with a warm smile and shaking my hand, the president had two conditions [for granting the interview]: that I should not disclose any details from the interview until after the summit with the prime minister and that I should not pose any questions on issues regarding the talks with Begin. Nevertheless, Honorable President, what map were you and the prime minister looking at when we followed you through the hotel's dining room window at the side of the swimming pool?

Answer: "I noticed how the photographers tried to identify the map with special telescopic lenses. I am not sure they succeeded and I am not going to make their lives any easier."

Question: Was it the map of the West Bank, the African Continent or, maybe, of the planned canal through which water will flow from the Nile to Jerusalem?

Answer: "No comment," says As-Sadat and roars with laughter.

Question: Can one conclude that the differences of opinion with the prime minister focus on the negotiations for the autonomy?

Answer: "Do not try to make me fall in the trap....No comment, no comment...."

Question: In the last few days you have clearly announced your position condemning the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan along with Egypt's concern regarding what has been happening in Iran. Is it possible that the latest regional developments have opened a new path for Egyptian-Israeli strategic cooperation to defend peace and stability in the Middle East?

Answer: "These incidents must strengthen our efforts and the 'momentum' we are giving to the peace process. This is necessary because before peace is achieved--comprehensive peace--we will not be able to discuss any strategic cooperation. The main effort should be directed toward building peace and completing a comprehensive settlement of the area. We have achieved something which nobody believed could be accomplished. As I told Prime Minister Menahem Begin in May: We have achieved something. A great dream. There will be no more wars. This is a fact! There will be no more wars! We have also achieved very strong relations between Egypt and Israel because of the peace treaty we signed.

"So far, this is sufficient. However, more 'momentum' is needed to complete the establishment of the comprehensive peace we are seeking. As I have already said, the peace treaty and the Camp David accords are the cornerstone (emphatically) and history will never go back. All the rest will follow sooner or later. This is a fact. However, let us first reach a comprehensive peace settlement, and later we will be able to discuss and cooperate on strategic issues or geopolitical topics existing in this region in which we live together."

Question: There were reports in Egypt, before the summit, that the issue of Jerusalem will occupy a prominent place in your talks with the prime minister. You yourself said that you intended to raise new proposals for the solution of the problem.

Answer: "If the solution of the Palestinian problem constitutes the foundation and the essence of the comprehensive settlement between the Arabs and the Israelis, then one could say that the issue of Jerusalem constitutes the foundation and the essence for the solution of the Palestinian problem. I realize your sensitivity on this issue but the same situation exists among us. The Wailing Wall is a very sensitive issue for you, a religiously sensitive and sentimental issue. However, we feel the same way regarding the mosque and the church. It seems to me that the time has come (emphatically) for us to reach an agreement on the foundation and essence of the Palestinian problem. We have overcome great difficulties in the past and I do not think that my ideas (for a solution) are that far removed from yours.

For instance, that Jerusalem should not be divided again: indeed, I agree to this. I am not asking for anything (regarding the division of the city). We are not very far apart. Jerusalem should not be divided again, and it is indeed one city. However, some 800 million Muslims in the entire world also have certain rights and they will not be able to accept Israeli sovereignty over East Jerusalem. Therefore, if we are able to meet half-way... the city should not be divided. However, a joint municipality should be established for the Arabs and the Israelis living together so that it can meet the needs of one city and guarantee free access to the holy sites for all three faiths. This problem can be solved easily on the condition that the spirit of the Camp David accords and my peace initiative exists. Indeed, this spirit has existed so far.

"I think that we will not find it difficult to reach an agreement. However, you should not begin by saying: 'This issue is not negotiable.' I think we have reached a point where we know each other and we can reach an agreement" (on the issue).

Question: Various reports were published this week on military cooperation between the Egyptian and U.S. air forces and the issue of a base serving the Americans in Upper Egypt. Could you shed some light on this issue and give us a precise account?

Answer: "The story is this. I was not asked by U.S. President Carter to supply facilities, neither a base nor anything else. However, because of my commitment to my brethren in the Persian Gulf--who have until this very moment severed their relations with me and have done things even beyond that; they are boycotting me and trying to isolate me... in spite of all this and due to changing geopolitical circumstances, I declared that even if a request is not made, every time any Arab country (is threatened) and every time an Arab Emirate or a Persian Gulf country needs U.S. assistance, then I will give the Americans 'facilities' so that they can reach the area at once. However, I am not ready to give away any bases, since this constitutes a part of our nonalined policy. We are a nonalined country. However, when one of my colleagues in the Arab world faces danger--and I am now referring to the Arab peoples and not to the Arab leaders--I am ready to assist.

"You probably heard about the decision adopted at the party's office 1 day before Begin's arrival. The decision states that we will establish a league here--not for the sake of the Arab countries but for the sake of the Arab and Muslim peoples, and not for the sake of governments, since it has been proven that governments and leaders have their own opinions which are not always compatible with those of their people."

The interview ended an hour later, at noon, with handshakes and greetings. Then, at the end, As-Sadat said--just as he had earlier stated with reference to the dangers threatening the Persian Gulf countries (regarding a Soviet invasion?): "1980 is beginning now. The year 1980 will be a decisive year. The oil battle has already begun."

GHALI ON STATUS OF TALKS, IMPACT OF AFGHANISTAN

LD141025 Paris LE FIGARO in French 10 Jan 80 p 3 LD

[Rene Bauduc interview with Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali in Aswan: "Egypt Prepared To Help United States in Case of Intervention to Support Arab Country Under Attack"--date not given]

[Text] Aswan--When you ask Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali to describe himself, he likes to maintain that he is a "realist" who wants to have a precise picture of the "tightrope" which Egypt has been walking since President as-Sadat's visit to Jerusalem. Butrus Ghali still defends the peace despite all opposition. He is still the political science professor he once was, using all European languages to define an idea which is linked with the golden rule of diplomacy: negotiate and above all define the problems clearly. For example, the Russian penetration into Afghanistan. Is it a mistake by the Russian imperial nemesis or a long-prepared plan?

"A third theory could be envisaged," the head of Egyptian diplomacy said: "A calculated plan which it was possible to carry out thanks to U.S. weakness. The fact that the Americans are paralyzed by the seizure of hostages in Tehran gives the USSR an opportunity to take action in a region which is extremely important in that it affects not only U.S. interests but also those of another great power: China."

If the Arab world is to become fully conscious of the situation, Mr Ghali thinks, the Palestinian question must be solved first, since as long as it divides the Arab countries it will be difficult for them to confront the crisis.

[Question] But the Palestinians reject any idea of negotiation. So what can be done to persuade them to change their minds?

[Answer] On 13 October 1977 we gave Washington a 20-point memorandum with a whole series of measures to be taken to persuade the Palestinians to join the negotiations: political amnesty, reuniting divided families, symbolic withdrawal of Israeli forces from the West Bank and from Gaza. [answer ends]

Mr Ghali maintained that none of these measures has been applied to the Palestinians and that in fact their situation has deteriorated since then, prompting a deterioration in relations between Egypt and the Arab countries, which are increasingly accusing Cairo of not having a serious attitude toward the Palestinians.

Common Denominator

I asked Mr Ghali whether Egypt can speak on behalf of the Palestinians, who stubbornly reject any suggestion of negotiation with the Jewish state in the framework of the Camp David agreements and who are maintaining in their constitutional charter an official call for the destruction--even if gradual--of the Zionist state.

[Answer] We have never claimed to negotiate for or to represent the Palestinians. Our aim is to improve their situation in order to encourage them to negotiate: by ending the occupation and setting up a Palestinian authority which will be a valid interlocutor. Having achieved that, we will stand down. Then we will be able to envisage mutual recognition.

The new situation which has been created in Afghanistan cannot help us find a common denominator which could reduce the importance of the Palestinian obstacle, because it seems to me that the Israelis would like to use this threat to postpone the solution of the problem once again, although it is the reverse which should be envisaged.

[Question] Mr Minister, how do you interpret the reports published on the military cooperation which already exists between Egypt and the United States?

[Answer] I would like to specify that the "facilities" mentioned would only be granted in the case of an attack on an Arab state. The combined Egyptian-U.S. maneuvers announced by War Minister General 'Ali are symbolic. Egypt is prepared to give the United States prompt aid if the United States were to aid an Arab power under attack. [answer ends]

(Yesterday evening Washington declined the Egyptian and Israeli offer of U.S. bases in their countries, on the grounds that these bases "would not be useful at the moment." However, the United States has not given up efforts to organize new combined training exercises with these two countries like those now taking placeiin Egypt--LE FIGARO editor's note.)

[Question] Do you think NATO should play a more active role in this situation?

[Answer] I prefer to talk about Europe's role and not that of NATO, since NATO suggests a military pact. We are opposed to military pacts. I am thinking of Europe. I and Mr Dayan had the opportunity to attend a Council of Europe debate. Mr Dayan told the Europeans: "Do not intervene, for in so doing you would hinder the peace process." I said on the other hand: "Intervene, for we need the help of all nations to solve the Middle East problem." [answer ends]

Yesterday was very clam on the diplomatic plane in Aswan, for Mr Begin went to visit the Luxor ruins where he was received with great ceremony. The atmosphere changed for the first time in 2 days. The prime minister was cheered by the crowd, especially when he returned to Aswan. It is a minor but significant fact that since Prime Minister Khalil was unable to see Mr Begin off Thursday becuase of toothache, the press was told that President as-Sadat himself would see him off. The Egyptians certainly want to end this trip on a warmer note than it began.

On Regional Events

TA122000 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1830 GMT 12 Jan 80 TA

[Interview in English with Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali by Jerusalem Television correspondent Ya'aqov Ahime'ir in Aswan last week--videotaped]

[Text] [Question] How far do the circumstances in Iran and Afghanistan shadow the situation in our area or in the relations between Egypt and Israel?

[Answer] We are hoping that this will encourage the Israelis to find a quick solution to the Palestinian question, showing the importance of solving our problem inside the region before thinking in terms of the problem outside the region.

[Question] Do you believe, Dr Ghali, that the circumstances in the periphery of the area will slow down the process of normalization between Egypt and Israel?

[Answer] No, I am hoping that the events outside in the periphery of the region will encourage the two parties to find a quick solution to the Palestinian problem, and a quick solution to all the problems related to the peace process.

[Question] What do you expect from Israel at this moment?

[Answer] We are expecting Israel to give the right of self-determination to the Palestinian people in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

[Question] Dr Ghali, do you think that the circumstances, in global terms, call for strategic cooperation between Egypt and Israel?

[Answer] It will be impossible to have a real strategic cooperation between Egypt and Israel before solving the problem inside the region, before reaching global peace. What we have reached is just the first step: a peace treaty between Egypt and Israel. We need further steps, and this is the purpose of Camp David.

[Question] How do you assess, Dr Ghali, the present cooperation between Egypt and the United States?

[Answer] I believe it is a positive one and most important cooperation in the tripartite negotiations in which we are dealing with the future of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. This is one of the forms of the cooperation.

[Question] Yes, but there were reports about joint maneuvers or exercises of the Egyptian and American air forces.

[Answer] I have no comment on this subject.

[Question] You cannot comment on this subject?

[Answer] I don't want to comment on this subject.

[Question] Do you believe, Dr Ghali, that Egypt is shifting quickly to a closer cooperation with the United States at the moment?

[Answer] No, because the policy of Egypt is the policy of nonalinement, and the basis of nonalinement is not to give any kind of foreign bases to any superpower.

[Question] So, how do you see the so-called military cooperation between the two countries?

[Answer] The military cooperation is based on the fact that the Americans are giving us arms and arehelping our training of our pilots, but we want to keep our nonalinement policy. If you remember, when we signed the treaty in Washington last March we refused to sign an understanding between Egypt and the United States like the understanding which was signed between Israel and the United States.

[Question] Do you rule out, Dr Ghali, the possibility of the United States signing defense pacts, separate pacts between Egypt and Israel?

[Answer] We cannot intervene in the internal affairs of Israel; the same is true regarding the policy of the United States, that we rule out without doubt any kind of pact between Egypt and the United States.

DEFENSE MINISTER 'ALI ADDRESSES 3D ARMY

NC131506 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1420 GMT 13 Jan 80 NC

[Excerpt] Suez, 13 January--Minister of Defense and War Production Gen Kamal Hasan 'Ali has said that the armed forces' strategic task in the present and coming phase is the constant development of the forces; they should always be ready to regain our rights and deter any adventurous aggressor who might attempt to detract from our will or sovereignty. We realize that we are living in a world in which right must be backed by force.

In a speech delivered today at a ceremony of the 3d Field Army, marking training day, the defense minister said: Although we have crossed over to the road of peace, we must not forget that we are living in a phase which is full of conflicts and bloody events, to such an extent that it threatens the collapse of world peace.

The defense minister referred to the current events in Afghanistan and said: The violation of Afghanistan's sovereignty by the invading Soviet forces may be a warning of intentions aimed at the Middle East area. General 'Ali said: This leads me to exert every effort to raise the standard of our armed forces, their arms and equipment, to the highest combat efficiency.

The defense minister affirmed that we are not living in isolation from the world. Therefore, we should realize the dimensions of what is going on around us, and we should always be prepared to confront the military burdens imposed by the nature of this phase.

AS-SADAT MAKES CHANGES IN ROSE AL-YUSUF ESTABLISHMENT

NC150935 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2314 GMT 14 Jan 80 NC

[Text] Cairo, 14 January--In his capacity as head of the Socialist Union, President Anwar as-Sadat issued a decision today to reform the board of directors of the ROSE AL-YUSUF establishment as follows:

'Abd al-'Aziz Khamis is appointed chairman of the board of directors and chief editor of ROSE AL-YUSUF magazine; Louis Jiryis is appointed member of the board of directors and chief editor of the SABAH AL-KHAYR magazine; Jamal Kamil is appointed member of the board of directors and technical adviser to the establishment; Salah Hafiz is appointed member of the board of directors and representative member of the establishment.

President as-Sadat also issued a decision appointing 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abdallah as member of the board of directors of AT-TAHRIR press and publications house.

COMMENTATOR URGES ACTION TO COUNTER SOVIET AGGRESSION

LD111643 Cairo Voice of the Arabs in Arabic 1130 GMT 11 Jan 80 LD

[Ismat Ibrahim commentary]

[Excerpts] Possibly the most important question reiterated now inthe international arena, and particularly in the Arab and Islamic arenas, is this: How can Soviet aggression against Afghanistan--aggression in the form of the tyrannical attack and direct occupation of that nonalined Islamic state--be confronted?

Possibly what makes the situation more serious is the fact that the nature of the Soviet invasion is beginning to confirm that the Soviets have gone to Afghanistan for an indefinite period and that their intervention to impose a puppet regime is not a temporary move or linked to a specific period.

Let us return to the question now reiterated in international, Islamic and Arab quarters, namely: How are we to face the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan? Can this aggression be faced by merely issuing statements of condemnation, abuse and negative objections to this blatant intervention? Are sentiments, words and the Islamic world's sympathy with the people of Afghanistan in their harsh tribulations enough? Is the adoption of measures against the Soviets such as a reduction of diplomatic representation or a boycott of the coming Olympic games in Moscow or at cutback in the shipment of grain sold to the Soviets enough? Such measures could be required, but they certainly are not adequate to face the Soviet challenge to the whole world--a challenge which has exploited specific international conditions to enable the Soviet Union to make its strike and enter the region in this brutal manner against the fighting Afghan people.

We believe that the confrontation of the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan should follow two parallel paths, one taken by the Islamic world and the other taken by the other states and blocs, and especially the countries of Western Europe and the United States. As for the path taken by the Islamic world, it is essential that the Islamic world, concerned as it is about this matter, should adopt practical measures to confront this invasion and form a bloc [tajam'in] with a positive capacity to pressure the Soviets in every possible way, including through military means, in order to convince the Soviet Union that the Islamic states are not morsels which it can swallow piecemeal once its appetite is whetted.

These measures in their simplest form could extend to material, moral and military assistance to the Afghan people to help them confront the invasion and efforts to free the Afghan people of Moscow's agents and the puppet regime which Moscow is trying to impose on them. The Islamic world, by implementing such a measure, will be defending itself and averting the possibilities of Soviet involvement in more Islamic states, in addition to the fact that this is a religious duty demanded by the faith and urged by Islam.

The second path for confronting the Soviet invasion depends on the reaction of the other bloc facing the Soviet bloc--namely, the Western bloc under the leadership of the United States. This bloc should consider the matter in a more serious manner and adopt more effective measures than hitherto. The Soviet invasion of Afghanistan is a link in a deliberate plan aimed at reaching the world energy reserves in the Arab Gulf region. In order to reach these reserves the Soviets may need other states such as Iran and Pakistan and the Arab Gulf states, which would mean the Western states losing their vital arteries for their industries, and threaten international prosperity and stability with very serious damage.

Here we are not telling anybody about matters whose importance they are much more aware of than we are; we are merely warning that the Soviets, now that they have undertaken this foolish adventure, could move on to more serious and more threatening matters affecting security and stability throughout the world. All that remains to be said is that there are also the nonalined states, of which Afghanistan is one, and it is essential that they adopt specific measures to support the Afghan people and to confront the danger threatening the whole world.

AL-AKHBAR RIDICULES FAHD CLAIMS ON IRANIAN RELATIONS

LD140937 Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 10 Jan 80 p 6 LD

[Editorial: "Those Governed by the Complex of Rejection"]

[Excerpts] In a statement published by a Lebanese paper, Saudi Crown Prince Amir Fahd denied that there are any problems between Saudi Arabia and Iran. He said that relations between the two countries are better than before and that Foreign Minister Amir Sa'ud al-Faysal will visit Iran shortly.

Yet, at the time this statement was being published for the public to read, Tehran Radio was broadcasting a statement by those it called "the student followers of the imam's policy," addressed to the struggling and valiant Arabian Peninsula people. The statement overflows with "warm greetings and wishes to the brothers and sisters who, on the day of 'Ashura, drenched the cradle of Islam with their red blood in support of the Islamic movement that has disturbed the United States and the puppet government of Al Sa'ud."

Concluding their statement to the Arabian Peninsula people, the student followers of the imam's policy said: "The roaring waves of the Islamic Revolution are shaking the ground under the United States and striking at decadent regimes such as the client regime of Al-Sa'ud. It is incumbent on us to give greater momentum to the Islamic revolutionary movement, in order to bolster the real edifices of Islam with blood and money. Death to the United States, which is plundering the oil, and death to Al Sa'ud."

We wonder: Are these the better relations between the two countries of which Amir Fahd speaks? Is it an aspect of such better relations for the Saudi foreign minister to go to Iran as a minister of a regime described there as client and decadent? Has Amir Fahd overlooked the fact that those "student followers of the imam's policy" constitute the state in Iran and control Iranian affairs?

We do not think Amir Fahd is so unaware. But we would like to ask: Why is he falsifying the truth, distorting things and insulting the people's intelligence?

It appears that the rejection complex is the cause of all this. This complex governs such people's statements, behavior and judgment. All the abominable things that have befallen them have failed to free their mentality of this complex. They are under the influence of this complex and do not wish to face facts honestly or speak the truth, even if by speaking it they would only be fair to themselves. We wonder if Amir Fahd is satisfied with all that is happening in Iran and what is being done by those student followers of the imam's policy. Or is it just the rejection complex pure and simple? We hope the amir will give us the answer.

AL-AHRAM SAYS IRAQ OFFERED MILITARY FACILITIES TO U.S.

NC120705 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2310 GMT 11 Jan 80 NC

[Text] Cairo, 11 January--The Saturday issue of AL-AHRAM reports that the Iraqi Government was the first country to offer to give military facilities to the United States to confront the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan. AL-AHRAM notes that the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan was condemned by Iraqi President Saddam Husayn in an interview which was broadcast on Iraqi television.

ATH-THAWRAH Denial

JN150930 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0800 GMT 15 Jan 80 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 15 January--The newspaper ATH-THAWRAH strongly ridicules false accusations published in the Egyptian newspaper AL-AHRAM claiming that Iraq has offered to give military facilities to the United States to confront the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan.

Commenting on these allegations, the paper says today: Whoever sell themselves to foreigners, such as Egypt's rulers and the chorus of trumpeters and drum-beaters, hope that all honest patriots and Arabs will also sell themselves to foreigners.

ATH-THAWRAH adds: Concerning AL-AHRAM's accusations, Iraq can only view them with ridicule and amusement. The great July regime in Iraq can never be compared with regimes that have suspect links with foreigners. The paper stresses that Iraq's stand on current international affairs, including Afghanistan, confirms a course that is independent from international currents. It also confirms the role of national and revolutionary resolve in fostering stands adopted by the party and revolutionary leadership in Iraq.

The paper points out that this stand has prompted international quarters, particularly U.S. imperialism, to view the revolution in Iraq with misgiving. ATH-THAWRAH adds that the July 17-30 revolution in Iraq has been the major target of the conspiratorial efforts exerted by U.S. imperialism against the destinies of nations.

ATH-THAWRAH WARNS AGAINST 'U.S. AGGRESSIVE ACTIVITIES'

JN151035 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0845 GMT 15 Jan 80 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 15 January--The newspaper ATH-THAWRAH cautions gainst U.S. aggressive activities in the Arab region. It says that the development of events in the Arab arena and the area in general indicates that the move being led by U.S. imperialism following the collapse of CENTO is aimed at establishing a security alliance in the Arab Gulf area similar to the "technical" plan put forward by Qabus' regime, but in a new formula. ATH-THAWRAH warns that this new alliance will complement the United States' tripartite alliance with the Zionist enemy and As-Sadat's regime.

ATH-THAWRAH points out that the visit to Oman by British Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs Lord Carrington and the talks he held with Sultan Qabus, which dealt with "coordination" between the two sides "to insure the security of the Strait of Hormuz," and the visit which a U.S. Congressional delegation also made to Oman were aimed at holding further consultations with Sultan Qabus on his "technical" plan in order to emerge with a formula that does not embarrass or cause problems for Oman or other countries in the area--particularly since, in the opinion of the three sides, current international circumstances are amenable to openly proposing and implementing such a plan.

ATH-THAWRAH adds: The United States and Britain want to establish a joint "umbrella" to protect their interests in this strategic strait, through which 70 percent of world oil supplies pass, by controlling it and by proposing aggressive plans. The paper says the development of events in the region confirms the soundness of the Iraqi revolutionary leadership's expectations. Led by the United States, the forces of imperialism have begun to exploit the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan and developments in Iran to conclude deals and arrange for colonialist plans in the Arab Gulf area in a blatant and brazen manner, so as to impose their hegemony on the oil resources.

IBRAHIM SAYS ARABS 'APPROACHING DECISIVE BATTLES'

JN131659 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1645 GMT 13 Jan 80 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 13 January--RCC Vice Chairman 'Izzat Ibrahim has stressed that the Arab nation is approaching decisive battles against its enemies.

In a speech made while visiting the shooting site of an historic film called Al-Qadisiyah, he said: In our planning and aims we are approaching decisive battles, both as a country and as an Arab nation. He added: Our present situation imposes these battles with the enemies upon us, so that we can pave our difficult path toward the return of our glory and civilization and the construction of our future in the way we wish.

PUBLIC WORKS MINISTER FADIL LEAVES FOR HAVANA

JN120900 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0840 GMT 12 Jan 80 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 12 January--Muhammad Fadil, Iraqi minister of public works and housing, left for Havana this morning at the head of a delegation on a 1-week visit to Cuba. He will hold discussions with Cuban officials on cooperation in the economic, technical and construction fields and on the projects which Cuban construction firms are implementing in Iraq.

YUGOSLAV DEFENSE OFFICIAL VUJATOVIC LEAVES

JN112028 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2000 GMT 11 Jan 80 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 11 January--Yugoslav Assistant Federal Secretary of National Defense Gen Dusan Vujatovic and his delegation left Baghdad for home today following a 5-day visit to Iraq. During the visit, General Vujatovic held talks with Iraqi officials on ways of strengthening the ties of friendship and cooperation between Iraq and Yugoslavia.

DPRK VICE PREMIER CHONG CHUN-KI DEPARTS BAGHDAD

JN120920 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0855 GMT 12 Jan 80 JN

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 12 January--DPRK Vice Premier Chong Chun-ki and the delegation accompanying him left Baghdad for home today at the conclusion of a 5-day visit to Iraq. In a statement to INA, Mr Chong Chun-ki said that during the visit he conveyed a message to President Saddam Husayn from DPRK President Kim Il-song dealing with the strengthening of the bonds of friendship and cooperation between the two countries. He affirmed that the talks he held with state officials and members of the Ba'th Party Regional Command have effectively contributed to deepening the identity in viewpoints on the current international situation and have consolidated bilateral relations in all fields.

KING HUSAYN RETURNS FROM GULF TOUR 15 JAN

JN151308 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 15 Jan 80 JN

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn and his accompanying delegation returned to the homeland this afternoon following a 4-day Arab tour, during which his majesty visited Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar and Oman. His majesty held talks with the leaders of these countries on Arab coordination, analyzed developments in the Arab homeland and assessed the current international situation.

The prime minister, His Excellency ash-Sharif 'Abd al-Hamid Sharaf, described this tour as fruitful and beneficial. He said it was undertaken within the framework of strengthening Arab solidarity and coordinating joint action.

Answering questions on the royal tour by the Omani radio correspondent at Muscat airport, his excellency the prime minister said: The purpose of the tour was to hold consultations, coordinate stands and consolidate Arab solidarity. He added that relations between Jordan and Oman are based on cooperation and the exchange of viewpoints, in the spirit of Arab brotherhood and within the framework of the relations of trust and brotherhood between the two monarchs and the two fraternal peoples.

Answering a question on an Arab strategy proposed by Jordan, the prime minister said: The elements of Arab strategy were drawn up by the Arab summit conference in Baghdad. These elements are based on strengthening Arab solidarity, building an intrinsic power with patience and determination, and moving on the international level on the basis of a joint stand committed to Palestinian rights and the supreme Arab interests. He added: The Arab summit conference in Tunis took this strategy one additional and important step forward.

Answering a question on the stand, if progress is made in the self-rule talks between Israel and Egypt, the prime minister said: Such progress is completely unlikely, because Israel is closing the door to any just solution. It is planting the occupied land with settlements, absorbing the occupied land and obstructing the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and their legitimate national rights. The Arabs have no alternative but to build their strength, consolidate their solidarity, and collectively seek to achieve the victory of their cause in the area and on the international level, on the basis of clear vision, adherence to the clear and inalienable rights and closure of any gap that might develop in their solidarity.

His Majesty King Husayn was received at Amman airport by His Highness Crown Prince Hasan, the National Consultative Council speaker, the Senate president, his highness the chief chamberlain, his excellency the commander in chief of the armed forces, the ministers and the ambassadors of the Arab countries that his majesty the king visited on this tour.

INVITATION TO ISLAMIC FOREIGN MINISTERS CONFERENCE ACCEPTED

JN121245 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 12 Jan 80 JN

[Text] The Government of Jordan today agreed to participate in the extraordinary session of the Islamic foreign ministers conference to be held in Pakistan on 26 January to discuss the situation in Afghanistan.

The government had received an invitation from the secretary general of the Islamic Conference Organization in Jidda to attend the abovementioned conference.

SHARAF DENIES ALTERNATIVE INITIATIVE TO CAMP DAVID ACCORDS

NC150813 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0730 GMT 15 Jan 80 NC

[Text] Doha, 15 January--Jordian Prime Minister 'Abd al-Amid Sharaf has denied recent reports about the existence of a Jordanian initiative as an alternative to the Camp David accords. In a statement published by the Qatari newspaper AL-'ARAB today, 'Abd al-Hamid Sharaf says these reports are untrue.

Last week, an Arab magazine cited informed sources in the Jordian capital as saying that King Husayn of Jordan is currently discussing an invitation to the Security Council to issue a new resolution which would be acceptable to all parties including the PLO and which would replace Resolution 242 and the Camp David accords.

AR-RA'Y DISCLOSES NEW U.S. MIDEAST POLICY

JN140944 Amman AM-RA'Y in Arabic 14 Jan 80 pp 1, 12 JN

["Exclusive" to AR-RA'Y]

[Text] Washington--Knowledgeable sources have confirmed that the U.S. Government has reassessed its Middle East policy following a secret conference of its ambassadors in the area. The sources added that President Carter's administration has sent messages to several Arab leaders, asserting its desire to reopen the dialog with the Arab countries in an attempt to find an all-round solution for the Middle East crisis.

The new U.S. stand comes as a result of the conviction of the U.S. administration that, following the events in Iran and Afghanistan, the Camp David accord has failed to serve the required purpose, particularly since Israel has started to pursue the policy of taking everything and of not giving anything, because As-Sadat is alone in the arena and has become impotent in terms of backing out or rejecting Israel's demands.

SOVIET AMBASSADOR MEETS FOREIGN MINISTER BUTRUS

Envoy's Statement

NC111254 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 11 Jan 80 NC

[Text] At 1000 today Minister of Foreign and Expatriate Affairs Fu'ad Butrus met the Soviet ambassador to Lebanon. The meeting lasted 75 minutes, after which the following dialog took place between the ambassador and newsmen:

The ambassador was asked: Did you request that Lebanon support the Soviet stand in Afghanistan? He replied: We had an amicable and beneficial discussion. We exchanged views and assessments on conditions in Lebanon and in various parts of the world, including developments in Afghanistan.

The ambassador was asked: Will moving the Afghanistan issue from the UN Security Council to the UN General Assembly change the Soviet stand? He replied: Moving this topic to the UN General Assembly will not affect the Soviet stand.

The ambassador was asked: Is there a fixed date for the withdrawal of Soviet forces from Afghanistan? He replied: I do not believe that there is a fixed and specific date for the withdrawal of our military units. I want to put it on record that we have dispatched these units at the request of the Afghan Government in order to repel the external U.S. and Chinese attacks. When these reasons are removed, we shall withdraw our forces from Afghanistan.

The ambassador was then asked: It has been reported in the newspapers that a bomb was hurled into the garden of the consulate in the Soviet Embassy compound; is that correct? He replied: Yes, such an incident has taken place. We do not have any precise information on the perpetrators. All I know is that the Lebanese authorities are investigating this incident but so far they have not given us any information.

Butrus Remarks

NC111438 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 1215 GMT 11 Jan 80 NC

[Text] Foreign Minister Fu'ad Butrus said Soviet Ambassador Soldatov today communicated to him a verbal message from the Soviet Government on the events in Afghanistan and the reasons which prompted the Soviet Army to enter the country. The ambassador also explained Moscow's views on both the situation in Afghanistan and on what is happening diplomatically regarding this important international event.

Minister Butrus added that the Soviet message will be discussed at a meeting between President Sarkis and Prime Minister al-Huss tomorrow on the basis that the situation in Afghanistan deserves a meeting to determine the Lebanese position on this important issue.

Butrus also said: We are disturbed by what has happened and is happening in Afghanistan for more than one reason but mainly because our country has suffered and is still suffering from many things, some aspects of which are considered as interference in our internal affairs. We respect the freedom of peoples to determine their future. This is why we support the Palestinians in their quest to regain their territory. We believe that our relations with the Soviet Union must remain friendly, and that we must not involve ourselves in the disputes of the big powers because this would not be in our interest. We have often complained that some big powers disregard our issues, affairs and fate. But there are some considerations which we must not forget in dealing with such matters: There must be an international group working on this particular situation to exert efforts in order that we may not see the end of detente between the two superpowers and in order that we may not return to the cold war or perhaps even hot war. The Lebanese position must therefore be the result of all these considerations. Such a position cannot be determined at once.

SARKIS, ADF COMMANDER REVIEW SECURITY SITUATION

NC111303 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 11 Jan 80 NC

[Excerpt] President Sarkis had a 45-minute meeting with the Arab Deterrent Forces [ADF] commander, Brig Gen Sami al-Khatib, during which they discussed the security situation, particularly in connection with ADF work--especially in the northern area following yesterday's attack on the director of the Lebanese university branches. Al-Khatib briefed the president on the implications of the attack following the arrest of the perpetrators. The latter are being interrogated in order to safeguard the dignity of the Lebanese university and its director.

SARKIS, SYRIAN PRESIDENT EXCHANGE MESSAGES

NC131301 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 13 Jan 80 NC

[Text] This morning President Sarkis reviewed the country's general conditions in the light of the results of the contacts which were held during the weekend, especially the message the army intelligence director, Lt Col Johnny 'Abdu, brought from Damascus yesterday on the renewal of the Arab Deterrent Forces mandate and future security measures. Lieutenant Colonel 'Abdu visited Damascus yesterday and conveyed a letter from President Sarkis to President al-Asad. He returned in the afternoon and briefed the president on the results of his visit. He also gave his excellency a reply from the Syrian president.

POLITICAL FIGURES DISCUSS AFGHANISTAN ISSUE

Former President Sham'un

NC131840 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 1715 GMT 13 Jan 80 NC

[Text] Today, former President Camille Sham'un commented on the events in Afghanistan, saying that Lebanon must adopt a neutral stance concerning the battle of the giants there. He added that this stance was inspired by Lebanon's traditional foreign policy and that if Lebanon must adopt a stand, then let it be based on the UN Charter.

Shaykh al-Jumayyil

NC121503 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 1215 GMT 12 Jan 80 NC

[Excerpt] Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil has said that since Lebanon attained independence it has adhered to a policy of neutrality concerning foreign conflicts and international axes. Al-Jumayyil added that Lebanon had been able to maintain this traditional stance, which suits its political and diplomatic nature.

Al-Jumayyil was replying to a reporter's question asking for his opinion of the stand that Lebanon was being asked to adopt on the U.S.-Soviet conflict in Afghanistan. Al-Jumayyil added: Lebanon's position as a neutral country requires that it not involve itself in international conflicts, since its policy is based on friendly relations with all countries. Al-Jumayyil said: This stance stems from Lebanon's humanitarian role which is the only one Lebanon can play--particularly since it is being asked to involve itself in an international conflict and to side with certain parties. Shaykh Pierre said that, under the present circumstances, Lebanon needs help more than anyone else.

PRESIDENTIAL DECREE ANNOUNCES FORMATION OF NEW CABINET

JN150600 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 15 Jan 80 JN

["Text" of Decree No 3 of the President of the Republic--read by announcer]

[Text] In accordance with the provisions of the constitution, the president of the republic decrees the following:

Article 1: The cabinet of the Syrian Arab Republic will be formed as follows:

Engineer Dr 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kism, prime minister;
'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs;
Walid Hamoun, deputy prime minister for services affairs;
'Abd al-Qadir Qaddurah, deputy prime minister for economic affairs;
Gen Mustafa Talas, minister of defense;
Ahmad Iskandar Ahmad, minister of information;
Maj Gen Nasir ad-Din Nasir, minister of interior;
Muhammad Ghabbash, minister of supply and internal trade;
'Adnan Dabbagh, minister of local administration;
Muhammad Najib as-Sayyid Ahmad, minister of education;
'Abd al-Karim 'Adi, minister of presidential affairs;
Dr As-ad Darqawi, minister of higher education;
Engineer 'Umar as-Siba'i, minister of state;
Anwar Hamadah, minister of state;
Engineer Dr Ahmad 'Umar Yusuf, minister of electricity;
Dr Najah al-'Attar, minister of culture;
Muharram Tayyarah, minister of transport;
Yusuf Ju'aydani, minister of state for labor affairs;
Dr Salim Yasin, minister of state for planning affairs;
Dr Muhammad al-Atrash, minister of economy and foreign trade;
Nayif Ta'ani, minister of state;
Dr'Abd al-Jabbar ad-Dahhak, minister of oil and natural resources;
Dr Husayn al-Qadi, minister of industry;
Dr Hamdi as-Saqqa, minister of finance;
Faruq ash-Shar', minister of state for foreign affairs;
Engineer Dr Nawras ad-Daqr, minister of housing and utilities;
Khalid al-Maliki, minister of justice;
Dr Hamdi Musawkar, minister of agriculture and agrarian reform;
Dr Yahya al-Khayir, minister of the Euphrates dam;
Mikhayil Naqqul, minister of state;
Engineer Raf'at al-Kurdi, minister of communications;
Ahmad Salim Darwish, minister of state;
Dr Ghasub ar-Rifa'i, minister of state;
Nayif Jarbu', minister of public works and water resources;
Muhammad Muhammad al-Khatib, minister of awqaf;
Dr George Radwan, minister of state.

Article 2: This decree will be published and conveyed to those concerned.

[Signed] Hafiz al-Asad, president of the republic, Damascus in 26 Safar 1400 Hegira, corresponding to 14 January 1980.

AL-ASAD RECEIVES CONGRATULATORY MESSAGES

Mongolia's Tsedenbal

JN111309 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 11 Jan 80 JN

["Text" of congratulatory message from Yumjaagiyn Tsedenbal, first secretary of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee and chairman of the People's Great Hural Presidium, to Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad; date not given--read by announcer]

[Text] Esteemed comrade, I am glad to warmly greet you on your election as secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party Central Committee. We highly evaluate your personal efforts and the party's role under your leadership in consolidating the unity of all progressive forces that oppose imperialism in the struggle for Syria's successful progress along the path of democracy and social development.

The friendly Syrian people, under the leadership of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, are marching in the vanguard of the people's struggle in the Arab countries for the sake of safeguarding the joint Arab interests against the wicked aggressions of international imperialism and Zionism, liberating all the Arab territories occupied by Israel and achieving a comprehensive settlement of the Middle East issue on the basis of real justice.

I would like to express my confidence that the relations of anti-imperialist friendship and solidarity between our two parties and countries will be further enhanced and developed in the interest of the nations' peace, security and social progress.

Knowing you as an untiring struggler for peace and progress, I wish you, esteemed comrade Hafiz al-Asad, new successes in your fruitful activities for the sake of further strengthening Syria and its prosperity for the welfare of world peace and friendship among peoples.

GDR's Honecker

JN101658 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 10 Jan 80 JN

["Text" of congratulatory message from Socialist Unity Party of Germany--SED-- Secretary General Erich Honecker to President Hafiz al-Asad on 10 January--read by announcer]

[Text] On the occasion of the successful conclusion of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party's seventh Regional Congress and on your reelection as Ba'th Party Central Committee secretary general, the SED Central Committee sends you its heartfelt and sincere congratulations. We wish you success, continued good health and the ability to carry out your responsible work in the Syrian people's interest.

Czechoslovakia's Husak

JN101700 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 10 Jan 80 JN

["Text" of congratulatory message from Gustav Husak, secretary general of the Czechoslovak Communist Party Central Committee, to President Hafiz al-Asad on 10 January--read by announcer]

[Text] Please accept our sincere congratulations on your election as secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party's Regional Command. I wish you many successes in your future work, in the interest of the Syrian Arab people and that of progress and just peace in the Middle East.

Poland's Gierek

JN141308 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 14 Jan 80 JN

["Text" of congratulatory message from Edward Gierek, first secretary of the Polish United Workers Party Central Committee, to Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad; date not given--read by announcer]

[Text] On behalf of the Polish United Workers Party [PZPR] Central Committee, members and in my own name, I would like to convey to you our warm congratulations and regards on your election as secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party Central Committee.

I am confident that the friendly relations linking our two parties, the Polish and Syrian peoples and the toiling masses in our two states will be further consolidated and developed.

Comrade Hafiz al-Asad, I would like to convey my sincerest wishes for success in your activities in the interest of your country's toiling masses and in the name of the noble values of the joint struggle for peace and progress.

OFFICIAL RECEIVES POLISH, YUGOSLAV, HUNGARIAN AMBASSADORS

JN141338 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1305 GMT 14 Jan 80 JN

[Text] Damascus, 14 January--Comrade Dr Fawwaz Sayyagh, Arab Socialist Ba'th Party National Command member and director of the Foreign Relations Bureau, received at his office today the Polish, Hungarian and Yugoslav ambassadors in Damascus. The ambassadors were received separately.

During the meetings, discussion centered on the good relations existing between the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and the Polish United Workers Party, the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party and the League of Communists of Yugoslavia.

Political developments in the region and the world and the outcome of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party seventh congress were also reviewed.

VOL DISCLOSES SECRET SYRIAN BA'TH PARTY RESOLUTIONS

NC150832 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 0615 GMT 15 Jan 80 NC

[Text] Informed sources have told the Voice of Lebanon of an important aspect of the secret resolutions and recommendations adopted by the Ba'th Party's Regional Congress in Syria. Some of these resolutions and recommendations are connected with Lebanon, the Middle East and the internal situation. The following are the most significant recommendations and resolutions:

1. The need to give a more important role to the Lebanese Army in Beirut and its suburbs.

2. The need to reconsider Syria's relations with the leaders of the national movement and communists and of some of the organizations in Lebanon--particularly in the Western area of Beirut--in view of the many problems in which the Syrians became involved as a result of their support of these factions and parties.

3. The need to avoid any likely clash between Syria and Israel due to the tense situation in south Lebanon.

Concerning the Arab arena, the Voice of Lebanon was informed of a recommendation, which was approved by the Regional Congress, calling to temporarily disregard the Iraqi-Syrian unity because of the convulsive stands of the Iraqi regime.

The Voice of Lebanon has further learned that despite the demand by some congress members for an investigation into the wealth of Syrian officials, no recommendation was issued in this respect. There have been reports that many resolutions and recommendations deal with the internal organization and conduct of senior officials vis-a-vis the situation now being faced by the Syrian Government. Some recommendations provide for transfers among senior officials.

VOL: SYRIAN ARTILLERY SHELLS ALEPPO SUBURBS

NC101305 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 1215 GMT 10 Jan 80 NC

[Excerpt] Our correspondent reports that an atmosphere of acute tension and unrest has been prevailing in the Syrian city of Aleppo for 2 days as a result of artillery shelling, which was resumed in various suburbs of the city today. Certain quarters of the city were shelled the day before yesterday with medium artillery, killing at least 30 persons and wounding 60 people.

The correspondent further says that (Al-Kilmah) hospital in the As-Sabil area in Aleppo came under artillery shelling and heavy material damage was caused.

VOL REPORTS CLASHES IN SYRIA INVOLVING IRANIAN ELEMENTS

NC121314 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 1215 GMT 12 Jan 80 NC

[Text] Reports reaching Beirut today speak about incidents and clashes that took place in the Buqqayn camp in the vicinity of Damascus.

These clashes took place after the arrival of the Iranian volunteers who will undergo training in this camp.

Reports reaching the Voice of Lebanon indicate that the clashes took place between 'Alawites, Shi'ites and Iranian volunteers on the one hand, and Sunnite elements which are loyal to Libya on the other.

The motivations for these clashes stem from the Imam Musa as-Sadr case which is being followed up by the Iranian authorities. Reports say that Syrian officials--who want to avoid an embarrassing situation--intend to send all the Iranians to Lebanon.

LIBYA

AL-QADHDHAFI HOLDS PRESS CONFERENCE IN BENGHAZI

LD131904 Tripoli JANA in English 1629 GMT 13 Jan 80 LD

[Text] Tripoli, Jan 13, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY--The revolution's leader Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi said the people's revolution is the revolution of tomorrow and that the era of the Jamahiriyah will be realised through it, after which the people will resume direct authority and all forms of dictatorial rule, whether sectarian, party of parliamentary systems, are abolished.

This came in the press conference held by Colonel al-Qadhdhafi in Benghazi which was attended by representatives of major Arab and international newspapers.

Colonel al-Qadhdhafi said strikes and unrest currently witnessed throughout the world will soon develop into a workers revolution. This will happen because the workers feel they are oppressed and that a considerable amount of their labour is compromised as they only receive wages and do not share in the profits of their production. He said the Green Book is the workers' salvation from exploitation and wage slavery. It also points the way to peoples oppressed by governments to eradicate all forms of parliamentary rule and other modes of indirect representation.

As to the leader's role after the revolution's separation from authority, Colonel al-Qadhdhafi said authority had become the monopoly of the masses after the declaration of people's authority.

The role of the masses, together with revolutionary committees, is now that of popular agitation against all unjust political, economic and social relations, the entrenchment of people's authority and heralding the dawning of the masses' era both domestically and abroad.

On the relationship between the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah and "Fatah" organisation, Colonel al-Qadhdhafi said: "If any misunderstanding exists between us, it is on the part of 'Fatah', so 'Fatah' should dispel this misunderstanding".

He denied the existence of any mediation efforts between the Jamahiriyah and "Fatah" as there is no dispute from the Jamahiriyah's point of view. He said the Great 1 September Revolution itself took the initiative by supporting "Fatah" with arms and money, helping it in its commando operations and permitting it to use Libya's radio stations and to open an office in the Jamahiriyah.

Colonel al-Qadhdhafi said the Al-Fatah revolution will continue to grant support and aid to Palestinians who believe in armed struggle as the only means of liberating their land.

He said the speech he had delivered to mark the international day for solidarity with Palestine was crystal clear in its appeal to the Palestinian revolution not to modify its stance so that it may fit the reality of current Arab affairs, and for freedom in its movements unhindered by any pressures exerted by Arab regimes so that the Palestinian liberation movement may remain truly revolutionary.

On therelationship between the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah and the United States, Colonel al-Qadhdhafi said the Jamahiriyah will reconsider its policy vis-a-vis the U.S. if America does not dramatically change its attitude towards the Arab world and Palestine.

He said the Jamahiriyah has not worked against the American people whose government has placed the Jamahiriyah on its black-list.

Commenting on the forthcoming U.S. Presidential elections, Colonel al-Qadhdhafi said President Carter promised that, if reelected, he will alter American foreign policy regarding the Palestine issue. This promise gives Carter a final chance to reconsider his policy vis-a-vis the Arabs.

As to the acceptance of a U.S. charge d'affaires in the Jamahiriyah, Colonel al-Qadhdhafi said the Jamahiriyah is not opposed to the idea as long as he is accompanied by an American people's bureau in Libya.

This matter, he said, is in the hands of Americans residing in the Jamahiriyah because they could occupy the U.S. embassy and transform it to a people's bureau.

In response to another question regarding the disruption of economic relations with China, Colonel al-Qadhdhafi pointed to the decision taken by basic people's congresses and reformulated by the General People's Congress severing economic and commercial links with China because of its military support including the supply of 90 jet fighters to the defeated Egyptian regime.

He said the only front with which the defeated Egyptian president will use these weapons is the Libyan front, because his sole enemy after capitulation to (Israel) is the Arabs.

On oil, Colonel al-Qadhdhafi said oil prices will continue to climb and production decrease as long as the prices of industrial goods exported to poorer countries keep on spiralling.

Colonel al-Qadhdhafi said the basic people's congresses have decided on establishing a 200 million Libyan dinars fund for aid to developing countries in surmounting problems resulting from oil price rises.

Colonel al-Qadhdhafi said the Jamahiriyah's relations with Iran are good. He said the Al-Fatah revolution actively agitated for revolution in Iran by forwarding aid and political (backing) before its eruption.

In response to a question regarding the exchange of ambassadors between both countries, Colonel al-Qadhdhafi said such a measure would be a mere formality and that relations between the two revolutions have extended far beyond these formalities.

On the Al-Fatah revolution's unionist efforts, Colonel al-Qadhdhafi said people's authority will impose itself and in the final analysis achieve Arab unity.

As to finding a solution for the dispute between "POLISARIO" and Morocco, Colonel al-Qadhdhafi said no negotiated settlement will be reached so long as King Hassan of Morocco persists in oppressing the Saharan people and annexing them by force to Morocco.

He said the people of Seguia al-Hamra and Rio de Oro are in a state of revolution and that their problem is not that of negotiations.

In response to a question regarding the occupation by students of some Libyan embassies and their transformation into people's bureaus, he said such occupations will continue.

Colonel al-Qadhdhafi said the process by which some embassies which had already been transformed into people's bureaus had taken place lies in the fact that the host countries had thousands of Libyan students in them.

As for his declining to attend the fifth session of the Arab people's congress, Colonel al-Qadhdhafi said people's authority is now clearly defined for the Libyan Arab people and satisfactorily implemented by them. Colonel al-Qadhdhafi felt that he no longer had a role to play in the congress after the revolution's separation from authority.

Colonel al-Qadhdhafi, however, made some comments regarding the basic people's congresses. He said these congresses were supposed to draw out their own agendas and send them to the General People's Congress for harmonisation with other agendas and reformulation.

He said this process was not entirely adopted for administrative reasons.

As to the appointment of some new secretaries to the General People's Committee, Colonel al-Qadhdhafi said future appointments or dismissals of these secretaries will be made by the basic people's congress, in harmony with people's authority.

On the inactive participation of women in the Jamahiriyah's political life, Colonel al-Qadhdhafi said there are no barriers which hold women from practising their rights. He said 50 percent of all revolutionary committees are composed of women, especially women students, because students are actively participating in the revolution more than in the exercise of authority.

Colonel al-Qadhdhafi ended the press conference by criticizing the Western news media for reporting malicious and negative news regarding the Jamahiriyah.

He said journalists coming to Libya should realistically report what they see in the Jamahiriyah and not depending on reports circulated by Zionist sources which aim at falsifying the facts and using them in its own interests.

MOROCCO

MOROCCAN-GDR COMMITTEE SESSION OPENS IN RABAT

ID150047 Rabat MAP in French 1530 GMT 14 Jan 60 LD

[Text] Rabat--The Moroccan-East German Committee, which is preparing a technical cooperation agreement between the two countries, began its session in Rabat today.

The committee will have to work out a framework agreement specifiying particular arrangements in various economic fields and for the exchange of experts and technical cooperation staff.

The agreement will be initialed at the end of the talks, which will last for 3 days. As for the signing, this will be done on the occasion of the forthcoming visit by the East German minister of cooperation to Morocco.

It is to be noted that this is the first time that a committee of this kind has been set up between the two countries.

The Moroccan and East German delegations are headed by Mr Douab, director of economic affairs and cooperation at the Ministry of State in Charge of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, and (Bernd Haak), director at the East German Ministry of Foreign Trade.

SUDAN

OPPOSITION LEADER ON NATION'S 'UNSTABLE' SITUATION

LD111113 Paris AN-NAHAR AL-'ARABI WA AD-DUWALI in Arabic 7-13 Jan 80 p 31 LD

[Interview granted to Bassam Tayyarah by Sudanese opposition leader Ash-Sharif al-Hindi--date, place not specified]

[Excerpts] [Question] What is the reality of the internal situation in Sudan following the return of some opposition leaders from abroad?

[Answer] The situation in Sudan is unstable and the country will inevitably collapse. Sudan is experiencing the most critical phases in all spheres; economic, military, political and social. The return of some so-called opposition leaders has had no effect because the masses have rejected them and spurned them for prostrating themselves at the doorstep of the authorities. The Sudanese climate is one of opposition to the regime. It is total opposition irrespective of political affiliations and background. The kowtowing to the regime by any leadership, be it political, factional or front leadership, will not affect the position of the opposition.

All that I can say is that whoever appeases, negotiates with or joins the regime will burn along with it, and his attitude will only weaken the regime and intensify hatred for it.

[Question] What are your conditions for returning to Sudan and accepting a national detente program?

[Answer] 1) The complete elimination of the regime, 2) The establishment of a revolutionary transitional regime for national salvation, 3) The granting of public freedoms, 4) The placing of the future government in Sudan in the hands of Sudanese people alone.

[Question] It has been reported that you have paid a secret visit to Egypt. Is it true?

[Answer] It is not true, absolutely not. I have not visited Egypt for over 7 years now. I have read and heard of the report but it is false, misleading and completely baseless. Why should I go to Egypt now? Whether I go to Egypt or not is based on central and basic principles. I am neither a visitor nor an ordinary tourist who goes to Egypt whenever he wishes. Neither am I one of those who favor or seek changes in the political climate in the Arab regimes nor one of those who go whichever way the wind is blowing. Before going to Egypt I would ask myself two questions: Has the Egyptian regime changed its attitude toward the national cause of the Sudanese people? If I do not find a clear answer, I will not change my stand.

I adhere to the Arab stand out of conviction and belief. For a long time now I have been one of those who adhere to their people's cause, selflessly and sacrificially. I am also one of those people who are basically convinced that patriotic and nationalist stands are an indivisible whole. Not temporary, but basic stands founded on principles and conviction.

Our stand is not confined to the Egyptian regime alone. We are against every Arab regime that opposes the pan-Arab national stand. We are also against every Arab regime that does not support the Sudanese people's national cause against the existing regime in Sudan.

[Question] How do you explain Numayri's new stand regarding the Middle East crisis and his move away from As-Sadat?

[Answer] I believe that Numayri has not changed his stand regarding the Arab national cause or even his attitude toward As-Sadat. The thing is that someone has enticed Numayri with money to adopt an Arab stand, but Numayri is far from adopting any Arab stand. Numayri wants to solve his economic problems at the expense of the Arab cause. He has been bargaining for this for a long time and whenever he finds a profitable deal he will buy and sell. Numayri went to Tunis not for the sake of the Arab cause, but to continue his financial bargaining on it. Every Arab regime which agrees to Numayri's stand and his attitude toward the Sudanese people must reconsider its stance.

SUDAN REOPENS EMBASSY IN UGANDA 11 JAN

JN111441 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1420 GMT 11 Jan 80 JN

[Excerpt] Nairobi, 11 January--The Sudanese embassy in Kampala was reopened at 1000 today. The embassy was closed down following Kampala's fall last April.

SUDAN TO ATTEND ISLAMIC FOREIGN MINISTERS CONFERENCE

JN141502 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1435 GMT 14 Jan 80 JN

[Text] Khartoum, 14 January--Sudan has agreed to attend the ordinary session of the Islamic countries foreign ministers scheduled to be held in Karachi in April and the extraordinary session of the Islamic countries foreign ministers in Karachi on 26 January, to discuss Soviet intervention in Afghanistan.

Foreign Ministry Under Secretary Hashim Uthman received the Pakistani ambassador in Khartoum today, who extended an invitation to both sessions from Pakistani foreign affairs adviser Agha Shahi. The two sides also discussed several current international issues.

TUNISIA

DEFENSE MINISTER MEETS WITH 6TH FLEET COMMANDER

LD141930 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 14 Jan 80 LD

[Text] Minister of National Defense Rachid Sfar, had a meeting this morning with Vice Admiral William Small, commander of the U.S. 6th Fleet. The meeting was attended by Captain al-Habib Tlil, commander of the naval corps, and a number of senior officers and cadres of the Ministry of National Defense. It was also attended by U.S. Ambassador to Tunis Stephen Bosworth.

Following the meeting Vice Admiral William Small, expressed appreciation for meeting with the minister of national defense.

PRESIDENT BOURGUIBA RECEIVES NEW IRAQI AMBASSADOR

LD141541 Tunis L'ACTION in French 5 Jan 80 p 1 LD

[Unattributed report: "The Head of State Receives the Credentials of the New Iraqi Ambassador"]

[Excerpt] During an official ceremony at Carthage Palace at 1115 yesterday, President Bourguiba received the credentials of Mr Abd al-Malik Ahmad al-Yasin, new Iraqi ambassador to Tunisia, in the presence of Foreign Minister Mohamed Fitouri.

WESTERN SAHARA

U.S. CONGRESSMEN SIMON VISITS SAHARAN REFUGEE CAMPS

LD150018 Algiers Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 14 Jan 80 LD

[Text] Mr Paul Simon, U.S. Congressmen from Illinois and member of the foreign affairs defense and budget committees [titles as heard], has left the liberated zones of the Western Sahara, where he visited several Saharan refugee camps on 12 and 13 January. He had a series of political talks with a Saharan delegation led by Mr Mohamed Abdul Aziz, secretary general of the POLISARIO Front, as well as Bechir Mohamed Ali Ould Wali, member of the POLISARIO Executive Committee, and Mohamed Lamine, prime minister of the SDAR.

During his stay in the Saharan liberated territories, Mr Simon saw military hardware of various origins captured by the Saharan Liberation Army. He also had talks with Moroccan prisoners, including several officers. He met, on this occasion, Mr Abderrahman Ould (Zaibek), former deputy in the Moroccan parliament, and Ould Sidi Bechir, also a former deputy, who joined the Saharan people after the recent attack on Smara. These two personalities, who have recently joined the ranks of the POLISARIO Front, briefed Mr Simon on the tragic situation of Saharan citizens under Moroccan occupation.

In the afternoon Mr Simon attended a mass rally at the Tifariti refugee camp. On this occasion he expressed the desire that the Saharan people might return to their liberated homeland and recover their legitimate rights to independence and dignity.

Back in Algiers today, Mr Simon was received by Mr Mohamed Ben Yahia, member of the FLN Political Bureau and foreign minister. He also had talks with several Algerian officials, including, in particular, Mr Sliman Hoffman, member of the FLN Political Bureau and foreign minister. He also had talks with several Algerian officials, including, in particular, Mr Sliman Hoffman, member of the FLN Central Committee in charge of the foreign relations section, and Brahim Brahimia, minister of hydraulics.

APS REPORTS CLASH OF SAHARAN, MOROCCAN FORCES

LD101525 Algiers APS in English 1220 GMT 10 Jan 80 LD

[Text] Occupied territories, 10 January, (APS)--Saharan People's Army struck once again Moroccan occupation troops in Western Sahara. Combatants units operating south had Draa shelled for two consecutive days Morrocan garrison of Abattih, a communique published by Saharan Republic Information Minister stated. Heavy shelling was also directed to El Guelta in occupied territories January 7th. These glorious attacks come after the bombing of royal troops, stationed in El Hagunia north of our national territory, the communique adds quoting sources close to Defense Ministry.

'AL HAMISHMAR: BEGIN TO OPPOSE 'GAZA FIRST'

TA150932 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 15 Jan 80 p 1 TA

[By Dalya Shehoriz]

[Excerpt] The Cabinet will discuss President as-Sadat's proposal for "Gaza first" at its next session on Sunday or at the session following it. To date, Prime Minister Menahem Begin has not expressed his position on this proposal, but it appears that he opposes it for a reason of principle, which is his nonagreement to any deviation from the Camp David agreements.

The prime minister thinks that everything should be done in accordance with the Camp David agreements and their framework. Any deviation from the agreements would open the way for putting forward additional proposals for changes and this could, in the end, undermine the framework of the agreements and their validity. This posture does not allude specifically to President as-Sadat's proposal, but it appears to reject it out of hand.

It will be noted that at Camp David Egypt put forward a proposal to permit it to open an office in Gaza so as to be able to assist in contacts for the foundation of the autonomy. Israel rejected this proposal. The current Egyptian proposal which has been put forward is different from that which Cairo enunciated at Camp David. According to As-Sadat's current proposal, the implementation of autonomy in Gaza will only begin after the framework for the foundation of the entire autonomy in the West Bank and Gaza is decided and agreed upon between both sides.

DELEGATIONS INVITED TO DISCUSS NORMALIZATION IN EGYPT

TA141557 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 14 Jan 80 TA

[Text] The Egyptian Foreign Ministry has invited two Israeli delegations to visit Cairo next week for discussions on the opening of airline service between the two countries and the operation of mail, telephone and telegraph communication links which are to begin at the end of January, as required by the peace treaty.

Our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer reports that upon the prime minister's return from Aswan, the director general of the Israeli Foreign Ministry asked the Egyptian deputy foreign minister to hold such talks. The invitation was received from Egypt today. The deputy foreign minister in charge of the implementation of the normalization, Yosef Hadas, leaves for Cairo tomorrow to coordinate the visit of the two delegations.

Foreign Ministry Director Comments

TA141918 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 14 Jan 80 TA

[Text] The director of the Foreign Ministry told the Knesset Economic Committee that within a few weeks Egypt will cancel all the clauses based on the Arab boycott that discriminate against Israel, clauses that appear in commercial agreements and interstate charters. In another 2 days Israeli papers will be distributed in Egypt, and beginning 24 January Israeli ships will be able to anchor in Egypt's ports without any restrictions.

In reply to a question, the director of the Foreign Ministry said that Israel was discussing the possibility of cooperating with the Egyptians to turn the 'Ezyon airfield near Elat into a civilian airport, but the Egyptians were saying that it was still too soon to discuss this.

AUTONOMY TEAM, FOREIGN MINISTRY TEAM DEPART FOR CAIRO

TA141232 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 14 Jan 80 TA

[Text] Israel's working group for the autonomy negotiations left this morning for Egypt. The working groups from the United States and Egypt are to join the Israelis in talks at Mena House outside Cairo. Also today, another Israeli delegation is due in Cairo--the one that will look for a place to house the Israeli Embassy which opens January 26.

Limited Autonomy Powers Proposed

TA141121 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 14 Jan 80 pp 1, 2 TA

[By 'Uzi Benziman]

[Text] Israel intends to retain sole control of security, state lands, internal security and public order when autonomy is implemented in Judaea, Samaria and Gaza, while the autonomy council will deal with such spheres as education, health, agriculture and so on.

This emerges from the pilot model for the activities of the administrative council which has recently been prepared by an interministerial team and will today be presented to the Egyptians, within the context of the renewed discussions by working groups from both countries.

There have been several discussions in the last few days regarding the question of whether to present the pilot model for the Egyptians' scrutiny. The prime minister was opposed to the idea, contending that the discussions with Egypt should focus on matters of principle only. The prime minister's position was expressed at a previous session of the Ministerial Committee on Autonomy Affairs and gave rise to some commotion because it contradicted agreements already reached by Dr Burg and Egyptian Prime Minister Mustafa Khalil.

According to the understanding reached by Drs Khalil and Burg (in the London talks) both countries were to discontinue the argument on the questions of principle regarding the nature of the autonomy and try to crystallize the spheres of activity of the administrative council, based on a practical discussion of the council's powers.

However, at the end of last week, following his return from the Aswan summit meeting, there was a change in Mr Begin's stand and he complied with the requests of some of his aides (as well as requests made by Dr Burg) and agreed to the practical model's being shown to Egypt. An Israeli working group is leaving for Cairo today for discussions with a parallel Egyptian team. Heading the Israeli group is the director-general of the Interior Ministry, Hayim Kubersky, and its members include Maj Gen Avraham Tamir, Prof Rut Lapidot and Mr Me'ir Gabay.

Details of the pilot model that has been prepared, as was learned by HA'ARETZ last night, are set out in three groups: one detailing the spheres which will remain solely in Israel's hands, even after the autonomy council is established; a second group, representing issues which will be transferred fully into the hands of the elected council; and a third group, comprising issues which will be administered jointly, in cooperation between the Israeli authorities and the autonomy council. The group of issues Israel intends to retain under its full control includes: security, internal security and public order, foreign affairs, state lands, fundamental legislation dealing with perpetrators of security offences, border control, energy, fuel and currency. The pilot model also stipulates that the source of authority for the activities of the autonomy council will be Israeli law.

The spheres that will be transferred to the hands of the autonomy council, according to this model, include: education, religion, transportation, housing, industry, commerce and tourism, labor, agriculture, health and local police. The volume and extent of authority proposed for each of these domains has also been determined, including: local legislation, vocational training, sanitation, veterinary supervision, food supervision, prosecution in criminal proceedings, registration of cooperative enterprises, limited companies, handling of testaments, etc.

The powers which according to the Israeli proposals will call for cooperation and coordination between the autonomy council and the administrative council include: abandoned or absentee property, population registration, distribution of water resources, tax collecting (customs dues) and registration in the land's registry books.

Palestinian Participation Urged

TA141122 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 14 Jan 80 p 3 TA

[Text] Israel's representatives are taking to the autonomy "working team" discussions, which are to open in Egypt this evening, new proposals that are likely to bring Palestinian leaders to the negotiating table, Dr Burg revealed to MA'ARIV last night.

"Our delegation will submit proposals that will enable many Palestinians to reconsider whether to continue objecting to the autonomy or join the talks, and I assume they will be more inclined toward joining the discussions," said Minister Burg. "We are submitting a compact document that details all the powers of the administrative council."

The delegation, which is leaving for Cairo today, is headed by Interior Ministry Director General Hayim Kubersky, and yesterday it was learned that, following a personal request by the prime minister, his media adviser Dan Patir is also joining the talks, which will last until the end of this week.

Dr Burg said the special U.S. ambassador to the autonomy talks, Sol Linowitz, is due to come to the Middle East this month and that, besides visiting Israel and Egypt, Mr Linowitz intends to visit Saudi Arabia and Jordan as well.

AS-SADAT ACCEPTS BEGIN'S INVITATION TO VISIT ISRAEL

TA141800 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 14 Jan 80 TA

[Text] The president of Egypt has sent a letter to the prime minister, following Mr Begin's visit to Aswan, and our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer says that it is worded very amicably. Our correspondent has learned that President as-Sadat thanked the prime minister for his invitation to come to visit Israel again and said he accepts the invitation. Anwar as-Sadat said that he was happy to host Mr Begin and his entourage and said that they held important, fruitful talks.

BEGIN WARNS OF SYRIAN 'WARLIKE' INTENTIONS

TA141803 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 14 Jan 80 TA

[Text] Prime Minister Menahem Begin said that Israel is closely watching events in Syria because we have reports of large supplies of Soviet weapons to that country and also because of the internal situation in Syria.

Speaking to a group of conservative members of Parliament from Britain in the Knesset building, the prime minister said that Syria had recently received MIG-25's and T-72 tanks, and thousands of Soviets are now there, today, under the name of advisers. The prime minister said that we have reports that after Al-Asad's visit to Moscow, the Russians are sending more weapons to Syria. This is causing us concern. We are following the situation in view of the reports about Al-Asad's regime which is in a difficult position.

[Begin recording--in English] There was news that he will try to start some warlike actions against us. We are prepared, of course, we are not frightened by such threats. We wouldn't like to have it. We would like to have peace, complete peace on our borders. [end recording]

IDF Officer Issues Warning

TA141147 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 14 Jan 80 p 1 TA

[Eytan Haber]

[Text] Fear of a Syrian attack--perhaps even all-out war--on Israel was voiced by northern command's chief of staff at a meeting held at the end of last week with members of a British parliamentary delegation which toured the northern border. The officer, a brigadier-general, said among other things that in his estimate Al-Asad today wanted war with Israel because of his own domestic political difficulties as well as his wish to torpedo the peace treaty with Egypt, which is about to enter an important phase with the exchange of ambassadors on the 26th of this month.

Among other things the officer stated that, if Syria permitted the stationing of Iraqi forces on its border with Israel, "we will not be able to afford that kind of luxury." He also noted that, of all sides involved in what is happening in southern Lebanon, Israel is the only one to uphold all its agreements there, but "this state of affairs cannot, in my view, go on for long."

Military Buildup in Syria

TA150956 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 15 Jan 80 pp 1, 5 TA

[By Ya'qov Erez]

[Excerpt] Authoritative sources in Israel estimate that the number of Soviet advisers in Syria totals about 1,500 officers and men. There is no confirmation in Israel of the report published in the United States this week saying that another 500 Soviet advisers have arrived in Syria over the last few days.

Soviet military personnel are in instructor posts in Syria to help the Syrian Army absorb the new equipment it has bought from the Soviet Union. These are army personnel from all elements of the Red Army.

As is known, the arms deal between Moscow and Damascus is at its peak and the Syrians have already absorbed about 100 modern T-72 tanks, MIG-25 planes, modern armored personnel carriers and batteries of ground-to-air missiles.

The Syrians' equipment upgrading is continuing and authoritative Israeli elements have pointed out that they already have certain weapons, such as tanks, in greater number than the crews at their disposal. Accordingly, it appears that the Syrian aim is to accumulate military equipment which may be used only at the stage of conflict when reinforcements arrive from other Arab countries. This is a factor causing concern, which has implications for the balance of forces.

Syrian Hostile Intentions Evaluated

TA151008 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 15 Jan 80 p 17 TA

[By Ya'aqov Erez]

[Text] A U.S. personality who recently visited Damascus and met with President Hafiz al-Asad of Syria came to Israel and told senior elements here that "Al-Asad will be the second Arab president to make peace with Israel." These remarks are arousing deep doubts among his Israeli listeners--not because they have no confidence in that U.S. personality, but because of Israeli assessments of a contrary development.

These assessments were already expressed in the latest interview with the head of intelligence, Maj Gen Yehoshu'a Sagi, which was published in MA'ARIV more than 2 weeks ago. Senior military elements in the north have also repeated these evaluations. These latter predict the opposite possibility: Syria may open hostile actions against Israel, either in Lebanon or on the Golan Heights, as a way out of the domestic problems now affecting the administration in Damascus. It is a well-known phenomenon that when an Arab regime has problems at home, it tries to divert the "anger of the masses" at the traditional enemy--Israel. This is the possibility that Israel sees today as being the most reasonable, and it was also expressed in the remarks by the head of the northern command headquarters to a group of British members of Parliament who visited Metullah last Friday.

According to these assessments, the Syrians may cause an escalation in the military situation in southern Lebanon. They may again initiate dogfights with Israeli planes over Lebanon and may even try to broaden the confrontation sectors. The Syrians may send units to those regions of southern Lebanon where there are no Syrian troops at present, to reinforce the terrorists and perhaps even to take part in incidents.

In another sector, the Golan Heights, the possibility cannot be dismissed that the Syrians will try to start a "war of attrition" or open the border to terrorist activity.

The IDF is aware of such developments and is examining the situation and the developments on the other side.

It should be added that the gloomy evaluations are not based only on the internal situation in Syria, but also on the conclusions demanded by the accelerated delivery of military supplies to Damascus from the Soviet Union. These military supplies include a large number of modern, sophisticated fighting equipment such as T-72 tanks, new missiles, helicopters and planes--and all this with the aim of increasing the Syrian military strength.

RAKAH RECEIVES MESSAGE FROM BABRAK KARMAL

TA141141 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 14 Jan 80 p 8 TA

[By Bina Barzel]

[Text] A letter from the Central Committee of the "People's Democratic Party"--the Soviet satellite in Afghanistan--signed by the secretary general and the president, Babrak Karmal, reached the RAKAH Central Committee yesterday.

The letter, the likes of which were probably also sent to other communist parties in the world, describes developments in Afghanistan as seen by Karmal and expresses concern about the aggression of China, the United States and Pakistan against the country.

The letter asserts that the new government has taken democratic steps: among other things the release of all political prisoners and reinstatement of religious worship. The letter further states that the Soviet Union is extending aid following a request by the Afghanistan Government to help in its defense.

Finally, the Central Committee is taking notice of the "great expressions of solidarity" with the new regime.

AGUDAT YISRA'EL MEMBERS TO WITHDRAW AFTER PRESENT TERM

TA141913 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 14 Jan 80 TA

[Excerpt] Last night the Council of Torah Sages decided that the four Agudat Yisra'el Knesset members will end their role in the Knesset at the end of the present term, that is, in another 22 months.

DEMOCRATS APPROACH DAYAN ON PARLIAMENTARY COOPERATION

TA111531 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 11 Jan 80 p 5 Weekend Supplement TA

[By Bina Barzel]

[Excerpts] Senior figures in the Democratic Party have recently met with former Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan to discuss the possibilities of parliamentary cooperation. There were four meetings: three of them in the Knesset and one elsewhere. Each of the meetings was attended by various figures without any previous coordination among them. The purpose of the meetings was to suggest to Dayan joint action on an issue close to him, Judaea and Samaria and the autonomy.

The Democrats did not discuss this issue in their organizations and the meetings were privately initiated. However, the motives of the various initiators were identical: to widen the movement's public and parliamentary basis and to strengthen its positions, supported by a minority in the Cabinet. One Democrat leader told me that the political process should be given momentum. Judaea and Samaria cannot be held for much longer without introducing any changes.

And what is the solution?

The Democratic leaders apparently accept Dayan's view that autonomy should be implemented soon, while at the same time, Israel unambiguously states that it will be opposed to the establishment of a Palestinian state. According to this concept, the autonomy will be implemented while the IDF maintains its presence in planned settlement centers.

In approaching Dayan, the Democrats were undoubtedly flirting with the idea of establishing a "Democratic center." It is no secret that the party's electoral power is limited. The Democratic Party leaders know that if they want to remain on the political map they must expand. The possibility of joining another group does not seem possible for the time being. Therefore, cooperation with Dayan--at least on a parliamentary basis--could be a very good starting point. Also, the good relations between Yadin and Dayan could serve as a good basis for such a partnership.

Asked to comment on the meetings with Dayan, Democratic Movement Secretary Yisra'el Granit refused to discuss them. He was only ready to explain the plans for the establishment of a Democratic center. Granit said: "The Democratic Movement must find partners in the center of the political map. The Democratic center must be founded on the clearest concepts and plans and, at the same time, it must agree on social and economic questions."

Could Dayan be a partner of the Democratic center?

Granit: "Based on a political plan for the implementation of autonomy as a condition for advancing the peace processes, there is no doubt that Moshe Dayan can find a framework for joint activities. Indeed, the issue calls for an in-depth political discussion by the party's institutions to formulate a position. Such a debate will be held soon."

It is not only the Democrats who are dreaming of a "Democratic center." Members of Shay--the second faction of the Democratic Movement for Change--are striving for the establishment of such a center, and they are closely eyeing their former partners in the Democratic Movement for Change. Shay members--including Prof Amnon Rubinstein and party council Chairman Uri'el Reichman--met this week with representatives of the Democratic Movement Secretariat (Uri Warber from Kibbutz Hatzerim, Eli Eyal from the Jewish Agency Executive and former Secretary of the Democratic Movement for Change Ram Ron) and discussed the idea of again merging the Democratic Movement for Change factions.

All sides know that the idea of a merger is not practical. Thus, they speak about a "center party" to be composed mainly of the various generations of DMC dissenters. Although the initiators formally claim that they do not intend to disqualify anyone, in private they make it clear that the intention is to establish a group that would not include either Dayan or Tamir.

The Democrats reject the entire idea out of hand. They describe the initiative of the various members as "an attempt of two or three people to solve their personal problems."

DAYAN, SHARON'S AIDE COMMENT ON SETTLEMENTS

TA111405 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 11 Jan 80 TA

[Text] Knesset member Moshe Dayan says he does not recall that the government ever decided to set up a bloc of settlements in the region of Nabulus. The Elon More settlement, Dayan says, does not meet two considered conditions: this is an isolated settlement in the vicinity of an area densely populated by Arabs, and there is no plan to make the settlement economically viable.

Dayan also says that the claim that the settlement controls the road to Nabulus and is therefore militarily important is an empty claim.

The agriculture minister's aide, Reserve Brig Gen Uri Bar-On, said that had the settlement map been drawn only according to the considerations presented by Dayan, the borders of Israel would have been entirely different. Hanita, in which Dayan was one of the commanders, would not exist; nor would Upper Nazareth, Qiryat Arba' and Gush 'Ezyon have been built. History proves, Bar-On says, that those who built the settlements, despite the debate involved in their establishment, were right.

The agriculture minister's aide also said that the location of Elon More was determined by the IDF when Dayan was defense minister, and it is strange that Dayan is speaking against this settlement.

SHARON ASKS FOR APPROVAL OF W. BANK LAND PURCHASE

TA141846 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 14 Jan 80 TA

[Text] The agriculture minister has asked the Knesset Finance Committee to approve the purchase of private land in Judaea and Samaria for the sum of 50 million Israeli pounds. This is reported by our correspondent on economic affairs.

In his request the minister stated that the sum is intended for the purchase of lands to link state-owned land. The agriculture minister estimated that the land will possibly be sold to private contractors. Thus, the initial expenditure would be financed.

GUSH EMUNIM, ELON MORE PURCHASE LAND NEAR RUJAYB

TA150942 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 15 Jan 80 p 1 TA

[By Dani Rubinstein]

[Excerpt] Gush Emunim members and Elon More settlers, through the government, have purchased tracts of land worth 50 million Israeli pounds in the area of the settlement at Rujayb. This emerged yesterday in the wake of an application by the Ministry of Finance to the Knesset Financial Committee requesting approval to allocate an additional 50 million Israeli pounds for the purchase of lands from Arabs in the West Bank.

It was learned last night from Gush Emunim sources that the request is to allow deals to purchase about 200 dunam of Arab land in the Elon More area and about 300 dunam in nearby areas. It is not clear whether these deals have been completed.

The request by the Finance Ministry to the Knesset Finance Committee says that the purchase is being made with the aim of consolidating land for the establishment of Jewish settlements in Judaea and Samaria. The source of these funds, according to the Ministry of Finance, will come from the sale of state land to private building contractors within the Green Line.

In the original budget for this year 4 million Israeli pounds were allocated for the purchase of land in the Jerusalem region and the territories and now, as stated, there is a request to increase this sum to 54 million Israeli pounds. In addition to this, there is an authorization to guarantee the payment of another 10 million Israeli pounds for the purchase of land in the West Bank from this year's budget.

JERUSALEM POST: GAZA REACTS NEGATIVELY TO NEW AUTONOMY OFFER

TA110809 Jerusalem POST in English 11 Jan 80 pp1, 2 TA

[By Harry Wall]

[Text] Gaza--The revival of the Gaza-first approach to the implementation of autonomy, as proposed in Aswan yesterday by Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat, found no takers among influential leaders along the 42 km strip. This, despite the considerable leverage that Egypt could wield to try to bring Gazans into line on the autonomy plan.

"Gaza and the West Bank cannot be split. We are all Palestinians and oppose the autonomy plan for not meeting the minimum of our aims," said Hakim 'Ata (ash-Shawwa), head of the Gaza Citrus Marketing Board.

Gazans recognize the close ties that have existed with Egypt, following 19 years of administration by Cairo--ties noted by President as-Sadat during his news conference. But this was not seen as sufficient influence to change local sentiment on autonomy. We have good relations and personal affection for the Egyptians, but they cannot make us swallow an autonomy plan which does not guarantee self-determination for the Palestinians," declared Fa'iz Abu Rahima, chairman of the Gaza Lawyers Association.

There are many wealthy Gazans with considerable business and agricultural holdings in Egypt, assets which the As-Sadat government could freeze in order to influence Gazan thinking on the autonomy plan. Additional leverage could take the form of restricting the admission of Gazan students, some 7,000 of whom are studying in Egyptian universities.

"I don't believe that Egypt could succeed in changing your political views," added Hakim (ash-Shawwa), who is also president of the Bank of Palestine, which is waiting for Egypt to release the bank's 1.2 million Egyptian pounds from Cairo banks.

"We respect and like the Egyptians, but that doesn't mean we will abandon our national goals for them," said a close aide to Gaza Mayor Rashad as-Shawwa, who is currently on a trip to Amman and Beirut. "Autonomy, as it was conceived at Camp David, is simply a non-starter for us."

The Begin government--in its public statements and settlement policy--has provided all the ingredients for us not to endorse autonomy," the aide continued.

One observer noted that if the Israeli Government wanted to press ahead with a Gaza-first plan, it had its own leverage to exert on the 40,000 Gazans who earn their living inside the Green Line, the 1967 borders.

But no leading Gazan indicated he would support the autonomy plan, unless it guarantees statehood for the Palestinians. "Of course, quislings could be found, but they would not be representing anyone other than themselves," said the municipal aide.

JORDAN REOPENING PASSPORT OFFICES IN W. BANK

TA130622 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 13 Jan 80 TA

[Text] A Jordanian passport office for Judaea and Samaria is to reopen in Hebron today. The office in Tulkarm was reopened several days ago. The office employees ceased working after the Six-Day War, and now Jordan is returning them to work to increase its direct control in the West Bank.

In order to vitiate the status of the municipalities even more, Jordan decided to locate the passport officers in the Chamber of Commerce. They mayors wanted to revoke this measure or, at least, to have the Jordanian officials working in the municipality offices.

NATIONAL GUIDANCE COMMITTEE BOYCOTTS NEW JORDANIAN CABINET

TA120739 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0700 GMT 11 Jan 80 TA

[Text] The National Guidance Committee, formed by West Bank dignitaries, is boycotting the new Jordanian Cabinet and, consequently, not a single mayor in the territories supporting the PLO went to Amman to offer that Cabinet his blessings. This was stated by reliable East Jerusalem sources to our correspondent Pinhas 'Inbari.

The National Guidance Committee also prohibited the East Jerusalem Electric Corporation chairman from asking Jordan to represent it at the International Court of Justice in The Hague, as this would turn Jordan into a representative of the Palestinians, contradicting the Rabat conference resolutions.

Our correspondent remarks that these steps caused great anger in Jordan, but Jordan continues, having no choice, to allot money to the recalcitrant committee, in order to finance opposition in the territories to the Camp David agreements and to the purchase of the East Jerusalem Electric Corporation by Israel. At the same time, however, Jordan is expressing its disapproval by financing other organizations and institutions competing with the National Guidance Committee.

AFGHANISTAN

BABRAK KARMAL RECEIVES VIETNAMESE AMBASSADOR

LD141916 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 14 Jan 80 LD

[Text] The information department of the Foreign Ministry reports that the general secretary of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan Central Committee, chairman of the Revolutionary Council and prime minister, Babrak Karmal, received SRV ambassador His Excellency Nguyen (Huu Khieu) in Kabul after 1600 for a courtesy call at his office in the Revolutionary Council.

SELECT ITEMS REMOVED FROM GOVERNMENT MONOPOLY

LD141900 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 14 Jan 80 LD

[Text] Announcement by the Ministry of Commerce:

In accordance with the decision of higher authorities, the import of tires and inner tubes for various car models, [word indistinct] razor blades, powdered milk and various kinds of cassettes and transistor radios have been excluded from the monopoly of the Khalq import and export union. National traders, small and medium traders and trading firms can, in accordance with trading licenses and regulations, import these directly from abroad for the consuming public.

This decision is binding, commencing with this announcement.

CTK REPORTS EDUCATION MINISTER'S REMARKS ON AMIN EXCESSES

LD142136 Prague CTK in English 2011 GMT 14 Jan 80 LD

[Text] Kabul (CETEKA correspondent)--It will be one of the main tasks of the new Afghan revolutionary leadership to spread, together with education, also the truth about the machinations of hostile imperialist forces and their interference in the internal affairs of Afghanistan, Education Minister Anita Ratebzad told CETEKA here Monday.

Anita Ratebzad, Politburo member of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan stressed that during the rule of Hafizollah Amin changes in the education system were limited to personal promotions of his personal supporters. Only small use was made of planned financial spendings and some teachers and other members of the Afghan intelligentsia were even personally liquidated. Of the one thousand young people's democratic party members who lost their lives in that period almost half were teachers, writers, poets, scientists and other members of the young intelligentsia.

The minister pointed out that the social organization of youth, women and other working people and the army should become more involved in the education process than ever before. She emphasized the usefulness of the exchange of experiences and added that Afghanistan will welcome any assistance from friendly countries, such as scholarships, teachers, teaching aids, assistance in the designing and building of schools, etc.

At present attention is focused on the consolidation of the Afghan economy, purging of the party and state apparatus from the remaining exponents of the Amin regime, and especially consistent struggle against all enemies of the revolution and reactionary forces supported from abroad by U.S. imperialism, the Maoist leadership in Beijing and reactionary circles in Pakistan, Iran, Saudi Arabia and other countries, Anita Ratebzad continued.

Because of the conspiracy of internal and external reaction normalization of the situation and favourable development of the revolution would be impossible without the internationalist assistance of the Soviet Union, she stressed. Without this a civil war would flare up in Afghanistan and the country would be partitioned. The Soviet (?assistance) ensured security in time and created preconditions for consolidation and the country's further development.

A broad democratic national front associating all progressive and democratic sections of the Afghan society should greatly help the fulfilment of these demanding tasks.

Anita Ratebzad stressed the role of the people's organization of women, which proved its revolutionary activity in the difficult period and whose members withstood persecution and confirmed that they remained at the head of the revolutionary movement.

The minister also mentioned the persecution of all sections of the population under the Hafizollah Amin regime, and noted that mostly young people testify before the government commission investigating the crimes of the counterrevolutionary forces, e.g. Muhammad Mirzaman, 18, a student from Kabul, was arrested on made-up charges of a "conspiracy against the school management", and was being (?forced) into confession by threats that his fiancee or a member of his family would be raped before his eyes. Ali Ahmed Arjankur, 25, was tortured by electric shocks and had to look when his friend was being shot without any reason.

EFE REPORTS ARRIVAL OF SOVIET MILITARY REINFORCEMENTS

PA141402 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1026 GMT 14 Jan 80 PA

[Excerpt] Kabul, 14 Jan (EFE)--While the UN General Assembly was preparing today to vote on an initial resolution on Afghanistan and in spite of another harsh warning launched against Moscow by President Carter, Soviet troops continued to reinforce their positions in Afghanistan. A convoy of 100 military trucks and war materiel crossed Kabul yesterday from the north and continued south toward the border areas with Pakistan. The convoy was escorted by Soviet soldiers on the way through Kabul

The Soviet Union has also continued to bring supplies into Afghanistan by air. An Antonov-22 plane landed on Sunday at the Kabul airport and its freight was quickly transferred to military trucks. Soviet troops also reinforced the highway to Jalalabad, located half way between Kabul and the Pakistani border. At the same time the number of artillery positions and antiaircraft gun emplacements continue to increase.

The Muslim rebels offered strong resistance today to the advance of Soviet troops in the mountains of eastern Afghanistan which, together with the northern provinces, are scenes of heavy fighting between Muslims and Afghan-Soviet troops, said a rebel spokesman in Islamabad today.

JAPANESE TV BROADCASTS FEATURE ON SOVIET OCCUPATION

OW150611 [Editorial Report OW] Tokyo NHK Television Network in Japanese at 1100 GMT on 14 January broadcasts a 50-minute special entitled "The Soviet Military Invasion of Afghanistan--A Complete Record of 20 Days of Shock." The special includes film clips of the situation in Afghanistan, including scenes of Kabul's airport, streets and suburbs, Karmal's 11 January press conference with foreign reporters and Soviet tanks at night moving down a Kabul street with their lights on, among other things.

Reporting from Tehran, NHK correspondent Watanabe interviews an unidentified Afghan guerrilla leader, who says: "Our country has never surrendered to imperialism, nor shall we surrender in the future. We are determined to continue the jihad as long as we live. As our forefathers fought against imperialists, we will fight against the Soviet Union to defend our soil which our forefathers liberated from Britain. We will fight on for our religion as long as we live."

Also included in the NHK feature is a recorded statement by IZVESTIYA Chief Editor Matveyev who, in response to a question by NHK Moscow correspondent Iida, says: "When the late chairman [presumably Amin] visited Moscow a year ago, he asked our country for military assistance. But at that time our country did not respond. Subsequently, the internal and external situation surrounding Afghanistan changed, and finding it necessary to provide assistance, the USSR responded to Kabul's request. This assistance being limited in nature, the USSR has no intention of having its troops take part in the fighting. The Afghans themselves should defend their own interests. The Soviet troops have entered to prevent democratic Afghanistan from losing their gains. As to the timetable for a Soviet troop withdrawal, it depends on the U.S. and British Governments, for these two countries are aiding Pakistan. The United States has 500,000 troops stationed throughout the world, some of them in countries bordering ours. The USSR has no intention of permanently stationing troops in Afghanistan. When the situation that compelled us to send troops disappears, the Soviet troops will withdraw from Afghanistan."

The feature concludes with a roundup of world reaction to the Soviet invasion and NHK reporters' comments on U.S. aid to Pakistan.

AFP CORRESPONDENT REPORTS SOVIETS 'DIGGING IN'

BK141123 Hong Kong AFP in English 1104 GMT 14 Jan 80 BK

[By Pierre Legall]

[Text] Kabul, 14 Jan (AFP)--Soviet troops appear to be digging in for a long, perhaps permanent stay in Afghanistan despite official references to a temporary operation and marked hostility by the population.

The Soviet airlift stilloperates though at a much slower pace, with an Antonov-22 transport plane landing n Kabul yesterday and its cargo rapidly loaded into trucks.

Soviet troops are tightening their grip around main towns, especially the capital. Only 10 kilometres (6 miles) from the centre, trenches were being dug Saturday to house two batteries of guns along the Jalalabad road. The same day a convoy of some 100 Soviet fuel tankers wereseen driving south to Kabul.

Small Soviet camps and observation posts spring up each day on vantage points round the city. Sleeping out in tents despite the bitter cold--minus 15 centigrade at night--Soviet soldiers guard heavy artillery and anti-aircraft guns.

Several sources reportedthe Soviets were building two air bases in the south of the country for surveillance of the Gulf and its oil.

Remaining units of the Afghan Army are said to be unarmed and assigned to back-up tasks with Soviet artillery trained on many Afghan bases. In Kabul in particular, law and order is in Soviet hands, witharmoured vehicles patrolling the streets checking cars each nightfall. In the courtyard of the Ministry of the Interior, one can sometimes count 15 armed vehicles, gun crew at the ready.

Controls have stepped uparound the capital. On Saturday a group of French journalists aiming for Salang were stopped by a Soviet roadblock six kilometres (4 miles) from the city centre. The unit's political commissar, an elegant young captain, told them pleasantly that it was too dangerous. Shelling could in fact be heard in the hills nearby.

Meanwhile the population, at first simply stunned by the arrival of the "Churavi" (Russians) is beginning to show open hostility. The cries of "Down With the Russians," heard at a riot outside Pul-e-Charki prison which cost two lives on Friday, were exceptional but people are less careful to hide their feelings. On Friday, youths outside the bazaar's great mosque told a group of journalists they were not welcome as it was "a place of prayer". On discovering the group were not "Churavi" the Afghans immediately apologized profusely.

The Afghan's lack of familiarity with foreign languages is rapidly being bridged by a cut-throat gesture explaining what he would like to do to the Soviets. It is difficult to say whether the Soviet troops recognize this hatred. Officers will blithely tell how they were "welcomed", but surely the stringent orders they appear to have received about mixing with the populatio must tell them the truth.

Though around two thirds of the Soviet troops, except the officers who are mainly white, are from Soviet Asian repblics, and without their caps could easily blend into the crowd, there is no contact whatsever between occupied and occupiers.

As in Hungary in 1956, th soldiers do not appear remotely interested in fraternizing with the population. Observer point out that the Afghan operation could be not merely a test of Soviet organizatin and equipment--material here appears mainly of old stock--but a good test of troop morle.

BBC REPORTER DESCRIBES ATMOSPHERE IN KABUL

TA151624 London BBC World Service in English 1515 GMT 14 Jan 80 TA

[From "Outlook" Program, introduced by Colin Hamilton]

[Text] The Soviet leader, Mr Brezhnev, in an interview with the Soviet communist newspaper PRAVDA, has been trying to justify Russian intervention and to blame the United States for what he calls destabilizing the world. He's also quoted as saying that the debating of the issue by the United Nations General Assembly was a matter of imperialists intervening in Afghanistan's internal affairs.

In Afghanistan itself, the Russian troops in the mountainous areas aren't finding it easy to use their heavy armor against swiftly moving guerrillas, who make hit and run attacks in territory they know intimately. But what is life like for people living in the capital of the country, Kabul, where the troops and tanks are trying to keep their presence as discreet as possible? The BBC's Gerald (Butt) arrived back in London from Kabul a few hours ago and (Lily Purvis) asked how he assessed the present mood in the capital. [Begin recording]

[Butt] The people of Kabul actually haven't really come to terms, I don't think, yet, with what has happened. I think, in a nutshell, they're still dazed and they're very depressed as it gradually sinks in what's happened. I think you've got to remember that there have been Russians in Kabul, in Afghanistan, for the past 2 years or so, Russian advisers, a fair number of them. But suddenly this enormous influx of the Soviet presence has really taken them completely by surprise, and they're wandering around, carrying on with their normal life, their daily routine and so on. But they seem absolutely perplexed. They seem absolutely dazed. They really can't quite believe what's happened.

[Purvis] Do you see any signs of resistance to the Russians, as the odd raised fist behind a Russian back, anything like this?

[Butt] Well, when you talk to the Afghan people in private and when they establish that you are in fact not a Russian, they actually pour out their true feelings. These things, it has to be said, are extremely anti-Russian. If you're going along with some Afghans and they can't speak very good English, the mere mention of the word Russian, or, if they actually see some Russians, very often this is accompanied by a throat-cutting gesture. I mean, they make it very plain, their feelings by gestures, if not by words. There's a very strong feeling against the Soviet presence. Actually, the other day, just before I left, there was a riot at the prison in front, in fact, of Soviet troops and Afghan troops, something which would take quite a lot of courage to actually carry out. This was the first positive public sign that perhaps people are going to stand up and say, you know, hang on, we don't want this to happen.

[Purvis] How difficult was it to operate as a reporter in the city? The Russians are very sensitive to all the Western criticism they're getting. Did they treat you roughly?

[Butt] Well, no, I mean, this is the extremely perplexing part about it all. The Afghans, presumably with approval, let the Western press in, but once they'd let them in they made it extremely difficult for us to operate by not allowing us to send any stories out which mentioned the Russian presence.

Once the phones didn't work. We weren't allowed to use Telex or cables, so all the normal channels of communication actually weren't available to us. So here we were, in a country and, in effect, not able to get stories out by the normal means. So we had to resort to other means, you know, getting people to take stuff out of the country, so on and so forth.

Actually operating on a day to day basis was difficult simply because there was no central source of news. You couldn't go to a ministry and get a briefing on the latest state of play because the stuff we wanted to know about, the Russians, was a taboo subject. The censor just would not talk about it. So if you wanted to find news, you had to actually go out and get it. Of course that has obvious difficulties if you're in a country which is under military occupation. We were perpetually being stopped and searched and so on and so forth, though nobody actually said you mustn't go out of the capital, Kabul. So we took it upon ourselves to go out, but it wasn't always easy outside.

[Purvis] You actually at one stage got arrested, did you not?

[Butt] Yes, at a Russian checkpoint way up in the mountains, actually. I think it was such a long way from Kabul and such a long way from civilization that the Russians were absolutely startled to see a carload of Western journalists. I think it was more curiousity and surprise than fear that we were spies or whatever they had in their minds, in the back of their minds. We were arrested and we were held for a couple of hours, and I must say with most amazing courtesy and hospitality. We were taken into a military command post, a very makeshift affair with bunk beds and a wood-burning stove, a lovely, sort of warm, atmosphere to come into after those very, very cold temperatures high up in the mountains. The Russians were extremely friendly towards us, given that we were, of course, under armed detention. They even gave us a meal while we were under arrest, so it was a pretty cozy sort of arrest. [end recording]

SOVIET UNION CONSOLIDATING CONTROL OF COUNTRY

PA142134 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1941 GMT 14 Jan 80 PA

[Excerpts] Kabul, 14 Jan (EFE)--While communications with the outside are becoming more difficult, Soviet troops are controlling practically the entire country except the provinces in the east and other areas where there is heavy Muslim opposition. Some sources said the clashes between Russian soldiers and rebel Muslims are especially fierce in the north, in the province of Badakshan on the border with the Soviet Union.

Apparently similar fighting is going on in Patkia, southeast of Kabul, and close to the border with Pakistan. Contradictory news from Jalalabad state that this city is controlled by the Soviet troops while other reports say the Russian soldiers are remaining in their garrisons, fearful of the anti-Soviet sentiments which prevail in the area.

In statements made in the Iranian city of Qom, Mohammad Asef Mohseni, a member of the Afghanistan Islamic movement, said that five rebel organizations have decided to unite to intensify their offensive against the Soviet invasion. The organization has been named the "Islamic Revolutionary Union."

The Afghan Army is being completely ignored and many units have been disarmed and others assigned secondary duties while Soviet armament is becoming more visible and numerous.

In Malaysia 200 delegates from 17 Arab countries signed the "Kuala Lumpur Declaration" condemning the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan and asked for financial and material aid for the Afghans, who are waging "a heroic holy war", as well as a boycott of all the functions of the Soviet embassies. The declaration includes a refusal to recognize the new regime in Kabul.

Meanwhile, President Babrak Karmal announced the appointment of his new cabinet members. There is also speculation regarding the possibility that the Afghan leader will replace the old flag with the red one which is now in evidence. Official reports in Kabul for the first time referred to Karmal's activities before he reached the presidency, stating he was leading the resistance to Hafizollah Amin's regime during the 2 months prior to his fall.

Contrary to what was believed, the same sources added that Karmal was not in exile during the weeks prior to the Soviet invasion on 27 December. This version was given to the newsmen by an official spokesman in the most important mosque in Kabul, where last Sunday thousands of persons gathered to cry for "Amin's victims."

BANGLADESH

UN DELEGATE URGES SOVIET WITHDRAWAL OF TROOPS

BK121734 Dacca Domestic Service in English 1705 GMT 12 Jan 80 BK

[Text] Bangladesh has urged the UN General Assembly to call for immediate and unconditional withdrawal of all Soviet troops from Afghanistan saying that the Soviet action has threatened the future of international tension and detente of big powers and poses grave danger to renewed areas of confrontation of cold war. In a statement at the sixth emergency special session of the assembly on the Afghan situation at New York, the Bangladesh representative, Mr Ataul Karim, said that the Soviet military intervention in Kabul has put a threat to the future of a small Muslim country which is also a founding member of the nonalined movement. Afghanistan, he said, is faced with the armed presence of a superpower and the imposition of a regime against the will of its people.

The Bangladesh representative stressed the need for allowing Afghan people the free and unfettered exercise of their sovereign and inalienable rights and said the UN Assembly must strongly reaffirm that the sovereignty, territorial integrity, political independence and nonalined status of Afghanistan must be fully respected. Bangladesh is prepared to support any measures proposed by the assembly [words indistinct], he announced.

Demonstrators Hail Intervention

BK140555 Hong Kong AFP in English 0544 GMT 14 Jan 80 BK

[Text] Dacca, 14 Jan (AFP)--Over three thousand demonstrators chanting pro-Soviet and anti-American slogans paraded the main thoroughfares of the capital Dacca last night in support of the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan.

The demonstration came on the heels of a rally by the Bangladesh Communist Party which expressed "wholehearted support" for the Soviet military action in Afghanistan and backed it as "legitimate".

Addressing the rally, the Communist Party chief, Moni Singh, said the meddling by Pakistan, America and China in the internal affairs of Afghanistan demanded such Soviet action. He criticised the Bangladesh Government for its role at the United Nations on the Afghan issue and siding with the "vested interest groups" both within and outside the country.

Mr. Singh also attacked the government of President Ziaur Rahman for giving shelter to the "anti-liberation forces in Bangladesh" and urged all "patiotic forces" to unite against all their sinister designs to undermine the country's independence and sovereignty.

The rally also criticised the proposed American economic sanctions against Iran.

FOUR STUDENTS KILLED IN CLASHES IN MYMENSINGH

BK130912 Dacca Domestic Service in English 0835 GMT 13 Jan 80 BK

[Text] Prohibitory orders under Section 144 [banning assembly of 5 or more people] was enforced last night on Mymensingh municipal and adjoining areas including the Mymensingh Agricultural University, where four students were killed and several others injured in clashes between rival groups of students.

Further on Situation

BK140431 Dacca Domestic Service in English 0145 GMT 14 Jan 80 BK

[Text] All classes of the Dacca University will remain suspended today and tomorrow. This was announced by the vice chancellor's office last night.

At Mymensingh, the situation at Agriculture University remained calm yesterday after it was closed Sunday following the incidents that took place in the campus during the previous 2 days. The injured students, now under treatment in Mymensingh Medical College, have been improving.

Meanwhile, the Mymensingh Medical College authorities have declared the college closed for an indefinite period and asked the students to vacate the hostels immediately.

AFP Report

BK121634 Hong Kong AFP in English 1628 GMT 12 Jan 80 BK

[Text] Dacca, 12 Jan (AFP)--Several students were killed and six others injured, two of them critically, in violent clashes today between two rival groups of students of Bangladesh's lone Agriculture University in Mymenshingh, 110 kms (70 miles) north of Dacca.

Reports reaching here tonight said the university had been closed Sunday and the students have been asked to vacate halls following the clashes which spread through the campus since late last night. Two cabinet ministers rushed to Mymenshingh from Dacca this afternoon after receiving the news details of which are still awaited.

The reports said one student was found dead early this morning near one of the residential halls after overnight clashes and brickbatting between two rival student groups. The news spread quickly provoking further clashes and violence.

Bodies of three victims were recovered later from a nearby village where, villagers reportedly said, they were chased and beaten to death by their rivals.

Badruddoza Chowdhury, secretary general of President Zia's Nationalist Party BNP tonight issued a statement saying one of the leaders of BNP's students wing "Nationalists Students Party" had been brutally killed in Mymenshingh university last night. He condemned the killing and urged the government to punish the culprits.

Reasons for the clashes could not be ascertained. But it was reported that the victims were chased and killed this morning in a nearby village.

IRAN EXPRESSES INTEREST IN IMPORTING GOODS FROM COUNTRY

BK141741 Dacca Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 14 Jan 80 BK

[Text] Iran has shown keen interest to import raw jute, jute goods, paper, cables, tea and some nontraditional commodities from Bangladesh. BSS [Bangladesh Sangbad Sangstha] quoting official sources says that the visiting Iranian deputy economic affairs minister, (Ali Musavia Goring Muzavi) indicated his country's desire in this respect when he called on the commerce secretary in Dacca today. A Commerce Ministry source said that promotion of trade between Bangladesh and Iran was discussed at the meeting. The two sides also discussed the need for establishing air links and the improvement of existing shipping facilities. The two sides also disscussed the possibilities of setting of joint ventures, reports said.

IRAN PROPOSES TO PURCHASE NEWSPRINT

BK141742 Dacca Domestic Service in English 1705 GMT 14 Jan 80 BK

[Text] Iran has proposed to buy 22,000 tons of newsprints and papers from Bangladesh. This was stated by the visiting Iranian Deputy Minister for Post, Telephone and Telegraph (Syed Ali Musafir Darmaravi) while addressing news conference in Dacca today. He said Bangladesh is already committed to supply 1,500 tons of newsprint.

INDIA

INDIRA GANDHI ADDRESSES NATION ON TASKS AHEAD

BK141635 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1505 GMT 14 Jan 80 BK

[14 January message to the nation by Prime Minister Indira Gandhi--apparently recorded]

[Text] Fellow citizens, in the last few days lakhs and lakhs of joyous people from all walks of life and all parts of the country have been pouring in to greet me. Now upon assuming office, my first task is to express my deep gratitude for the mandate that you have given me with such trust and affection. I do this in all humility and in no partisan spirit.

Our hand of friendship has been grasped by the people with overwhelming warmth and eagerness. This warmth and close involvement we intend to extend and deepen in our march toward the building of a new India of our vision.

Our people fully realize that a solid economic, social and political infrastructure so assiduously built by the Congress over 30 years was allowed to be dissipated in just 30 months of the Janata Party and Lok Dal rules. We assume office in the wake of severe drought and acute shortage of vital inputs aggravated by negligence and mishandling. A year and half of strained industrial relations resulting in a loss of over 5 crore man-days. One year of nonutilization of half of our installed industrial capacity, a record deficit of over 2,500 crore rupees, and sharply declining rate of growth of export. The overall picture of the economy gathered from officials is far worse than even I had expected. Indeed, it is shocking.

The Janata Party government also sowed the seeds of bitterness, confrontation, division and destabilization.

To us, however, this has no relevance. I would not even have mentioned this aspect but for the fact that they have so regretably lowered the quality of our democracy. In the name of democracy, they did not hesitate to perpetrate all kinds of irregularities even in the election process.

Today our problems are vast in number, size and complexity. The interlude of nonconcerned and nongovernment have aggravated the position.

The international situation is also a matter of grave concern.

It will need time to mend this hard work on the part of governments at the center and the state at every level, as well as the full cooperation of every man and woman to get back on the road to development and progress. There is no room for cynicism or indifference.

Our country needs a healing hand. We must all unite in a common effort to solve the problems of different sections of our people and different regions of our country.

A democratic election gives a chance to make a new beginning of translating ideas into reality. We are pledged to the task of bringing about social justice, to providing opportunities to the people of India, our farmers and workers, our scientists and engineers, our teachers and technocrats, our artists and artisans, the middle classes and above all our young people and all who are underprivileged. For this we want to encourage and utilize all available talents.

Our commitment to democracy, socialism and secularism is a matter of faith. We cannot invoke the ideas of justice, freedom and equality without fully insuring our energies in combating the evils of poverty, superstition and social injustice.

This is too stupendous a task to allow any time or scope for mutual recrimination and vindictiveness. The divisive urges should be tempered with a spirit of conciliation. Malice and the politics of hate are self-destructive. Equally alien to the real task ahead are the off-repeated confrontation such as rural versus urban, agriculture versus industry, labor versus capital and the multifarious considerations among castes and communities. We have only one adversity--social and economic injustice--and have only one goal--to build a strong, self-confident, self-reliant, independent India. Come, now let us all work together. Jai Hind! [Hail India]

AFP: IRANIAN SPECIAL ENVOY ARRIVES IN BOMBAY

BK141735 Hong Kong AFP in English 1720 GMT 14 Jan 80 BK

[Text] New Delhi, 14 Jan (AFP)--Iranian religious leader Ayatollah Khomeyni's special envoy, Ayatollah Hoseyn Nuri, has arrived in Bombay on a week's visit to India to "acquaint Indian people with the Islamic revolution" in his country.

Reports from Bombay quoted Iranian sources there as saying that Mr Nuri would also be visiting New Delhi in the course of his Indian tour.

He would be addressing a public meeting in Bombay tomorrow.

FOREIGN MINISTRY CLARIFIES STATEMENT ON AFGHANISTAN

BK141530 Delhi ISI Diplomatic Information Service in English 1441 GMT 14 Jan 80 BK

["External Affairs Spokesman Clarifies Statement on Afghanistan"--ISI headline]

[Text] The recent statement of Mrs Indira Gandhi on developments in Afghanistan was in line with the foreign policy of the government, an External Affairs Ministry spokesman said January 14, reports PTI.

"There is no inconsistency," in the statement of December 31 by former Prime Minister Charan Singh and that of Mrs Gandhi on January 7, the spokesman said.

India firmly believes in nonalignment and non-interference in the internal affairs of another country and the right of the Afghan people to determine their own destiny. It would include the right to seek assistance from the Soviet Union. Developments in Afghanistan cannot be looked at or assessed in isolation and India believed that induction of arms in the "region" will increase tension. "These elements of foreign policy are common in all the statements that came on December 31 and later," the spokesman added.

COMMENTATOR REVIEWS DEVELOPMENTS IN AFGHANISTAN

BK141203 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1010 GMT 14 Jan 80 BK

[Commentary by N.S. Bedi of All India Radio: "India's Stand on Developments in Afghanistan"]

[Text] Recent events in friendly Afghanistan and their likely fallout in the rest of the region have naturally caused grave concern to India.

The urgency New Delhi accords to this issue is reflected from the promptness with which it acted. Even before the new government under Mrs Indira Gandhi had taken over after the election, India sent clear-cut instructions to its permanent representative at the United Nations, Mr Brajesh Mishra, about the stand to be taken during the General Assembly discussion on Afghanistan. What the representative said not only defined this country's stand but also gave an objective apprisal of the situation. India is opposed to the presence of foreign troops and bases anywhere. However, as Mishra stated, the Soviet Government has assured New Delhi that its troops were sent to Afghanistan at the request of the Afghan Government. First made by President Amin and repeated by his successor, this country has been further assured that Soviet troops will be withdrawn when requested to do so by the Afghan Government. India has no reason to doubt the assurances.

It is India's long-standing policy that it judges issues freely and on merit. This is the true essence of nonalinement. Also, we stand for peace and complete freedom of all nations--big and small. Whenever a problem comes up, it has to be seen how conflict or tension is to be removed and national freedom of the country or the countries concerned preserved.

The frantic reaction to the Afghanistan development by some powers, notably the United States and China, is undoubtedly based on their own interests and political equation. Whether the moves lead to peace and stability in the region, the facts and past experience do not strengthen that hope, but only give rise to apprehensions. It is not for us or any one else, for that matter, to say what kind of regime or political ideology Afghanistan as a sovereign nation should have. There have been many changes in this very region in recent years through upheavals, revolutions and military coups. The very powers which are now much agitated over the Afghanistan situation have supported changes which serve their interests. They have themselves never hesitated before actively intervening in the affairs of other countries when it suited them. There are many examples, too well known to need their recalling. In the case of Afghanistan itself, it was the outside powers that had been encouraging and supporting disturbances and subversions against the Kabul government. By so doing, they have shown scant respect for their professed ideals of peace and national sovereignty.

Unfortunately, Washington's reaction to all situations is to start arming countries in the neighborhood.

True to pattern it has begun pumping massive armament supplies into Pakistan. It is difficult to understand how any further addition to Pakistan's already massive military might can bring peace or stability either in Afghanistan or elsewhere in the region. The U.S. has been arming Pakistan for a quarter century now. But the military hardware provided by it has been repeatedly used only against India. American policy in the South Asian region has brought only wars and instability in the past. It cannot have any different effect now, especially when China has also joined them to bolster Pakistan militarily. There is no question of any armed attack on Pakistan from Afghanistan. India rightly fears that by securing weapons from the United States and China, despite its newly acquired nonalined status, Pakistan would pose a threat to India and to the stability of the region.

If peace and stability is to be insured and the situation in Afghanistan normalized, Washington and Beijing should reverse their policy. Let Afghanistan resolve its problems by itself without outside interference. All subversive activities encouraged by outside powers should cease. The withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan can then be hastened, to insure lasting peace and stability in the region, destabilizing and conflict-generating activities, like inducting outside arms and setting up or strengthening foreign bases in and around the area must stop.

PAKISTAN

TANJUG REPORTS CONCERN OVER DEVELOPMENTS IN AFGHANISTAN

LD122128 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1645 GMT 12 Jan 80 LD

[Text] Islamabad, January 12, TANJUG--The events in Afghanistan cause mounting concern in Pakistan, which along with a cautious dialogue with the U.S, is endeavouring not to directly endanger its recently acquired status of a nonaligned country and to avoid as much as possible becoming involved in the superpowers' conflict.

The foremost reason for the concern, as stressed in military quarters, is the fact that Soviet troops have reached as near as the Pakistani borders. It is also believed that a newly created situation could further sharpen some internal problems of Pakistan, above all the problem of Pashtunistan and Baluchistan.

The coming to power of Babrak Karmal, a representative of the "Parcham" group within the ruling Afghan People's Democratic Party, brings in a factor of further instability, it is assessed here, since Parcham, at the time of King Zahir and President Daud, strongly supported the idea of the unification of Pashtunistan. This territory today is divided between Afghanistan and Pakistan.

The presence of over 400,000 Afghan refugees here is also a great problem for Pakistan. It is stressed here the international aid is very little, and the refugees cost the country about seven million dollars a month. Hopes for the calming in this region concentrate on an engagement by nonaligned and Moslem countries.

Pakistan has launched activities along both these directions. And a concrete step will be the meeting of several Moslem countries' ministers by the end of January in Islamabad.

AGHA SHAHI HOLDS TALKS WITH WALDHEIM

BK120912 Karachi Overseas Service in Urdu 0800 GMT 12 Jan 80 BK

[Text] The adviser on foreign affairs, Agha Shahi, called on UN Secretary General Waldheim and exchanged views on the latest situation in the area for more than 1 hour. Agha Shahi also exchanged views on the U.S. resolution against Iran.

Later, Agha Shahi told APP [Associated Press of Pakistan] that he had offered a proposal for granting more time to Iran, as the threat to impose economic sanctions against Iran will further toughen their stand.

SHAHI'S MEETINGS WITH CARTER, VANCE REPORTED

BK130724 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 13 Jan 80 BK

[Text] Adviser on Foreign Affairs Mr Agha Shahi held talks in Washington yesterday with U.S. Secretary of State Mr Cyrus Vance. Both leaders led their respective delegations at the talks, which lasted 5 hours.

It was stated after the talks that the two sides had exchanged views on how the United States might be helpful in assisting Pakistan in the present circumstances.

U.S. officials were quoted as saying that the talks were very constructive and the process of discussions would continue.

White House Press Secretary Mr Jody Powell has said that the administration had worked out with the congressional leaders a detailed scheme on aid to Pakistan.

Before the talks began in Washington, Mr Agha Shahi told newsmen that he planned to apprise the U.S. leaders of what Pakistan needed to strengthen its defense and added that he planned to question what guarantees of Pakistan's security would be forthcoming.

In a written communique after the talks, Mr Cyrus Vance said the U.S. had reaffirmed its commitment to the territorial integrity and security of Pakistan.

State Department officials also exchanged copies of the 1959 agreement between the two countries. This agreement is still in force. Under this agreement the U.S. is committed to take mutually agreed upon appropriate steps in the event of aggression against Pakistan.

A report just received says the Pakistan delegation led by Mr Agha Shahi also met with President Carter in Washington. VOA has cited White House officials as saying that during the meeting views were exchanged on the Afghanistan situation and its repercussions on international peace and security.

KARACHI REPORTS ARRIVAL OF LORD CARRINGTON IN ISLAMABAD

BK141736 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 14 Jan 80 BK

[Text] The British Foreign Secretary accompanied by Lady Carrington arrived in Islamabad a short while ago on a 2 day visit to Pakistan. At the airport, he was received by the adviser on foreign affairs, Mr Agha Shahi, and other senior government officials. Tomorrow he will have discussions with the adviser on foreign affairs on matters of mutual interest and the regional and the international situation. Later he will call on the federal finance minister, Mr Ghulam Ishaq Khan, and sign an agreement on economic cooperation between the two countries. In the evening, Lord Carrington will call on the president, General Mohammad Ziaul Haq, and will also attend a dinner given by the president.

On Wednesday, the British foreign secretary will fly to Peshawar and see Afghan refugee camps in the northwest frontier province. He will also visit (Lamri Kota) where he will attend a lunch given by the Khyber Rifles. Before leaving Peshawar for New Delhi, he will address a news conference.

PRESIDENT HAQ, SHAHI GREET MRS GANDHI, RAO

BK150916 Karachi Overseas Service in Urdu 0800 GMT 15 Jan 80 BK

[Text] President Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq has congratulated Mrs Indra Gandhi on assuming the office of prime minister of India.

In a congratulatory message, the president said: We are fully aware of your personal efforts in connection with the Simla Agreement and we hope that during your tenure in office the process of normalization of relations between India and Pakistan will be speeded up.

The president promised Pakistan's full cooperation in this connection, and expressed a sincere desire to promote the improvement of bilateral relations for mutual interest, peace and stability in the region, which is faced with difficulties.

Adviser on Foreign Affairs Mr Agha Shahi congratulated Mr P.V. Narasimha Rao on assuming the office of foreign minister of India. In a congratulatory message to Mr Rao, Mr Agha Shahi said that relations between India and Pakistan have markedly improved under the Simla Agreement, which was concluded under the former government of Prime Minister Mrs Indira Gandhi and was successfully implemented by subsequent governments of both countries through mutual trust and efforts.

Mr Agha Shahi expressed the hope that the Indian foreign minister will significantly contribute to accelerating the process of further consolidating relations between the two countries as a region is faced with a grave situation.

AFP: MRS BHUTTO, DAUGHTER APPEAR IN COURT

BK131634 Hong Kong AFP in English 1143 GMT 13 Jan 80 BK

[Excerpts] Karachi, 13 Jan (AFP)--Begum Nusrat Bhutto, widow of the executed former Pakistan Prime Minister Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto and his daughter Miss Benazir Bhutto today appeared here before the Sind High Court in connection with their petition challenging their detention under the martial law.

This was the first public appearance of the two women since they were put under house arrest on October 16 following the martial law ban on all political activities in the country.

Mr. Abdul Hafeez Pirzada, former law minister under the Bhutto government, pleaded for the release of Begum Bhutto and her daughter but the advocate general, Mr. Usman Ghani, informed the court that fresh orders for their detention had been issued by the deputy martial law administrator in Sukkur town.

The bench comprising the chief justice, Mr. Justice Agha Ali Hyder and Mr. Justice A.V. Akhund, adjourned the hearing of the case till tomorrow and ordered that the two [women] be presented before the court again.